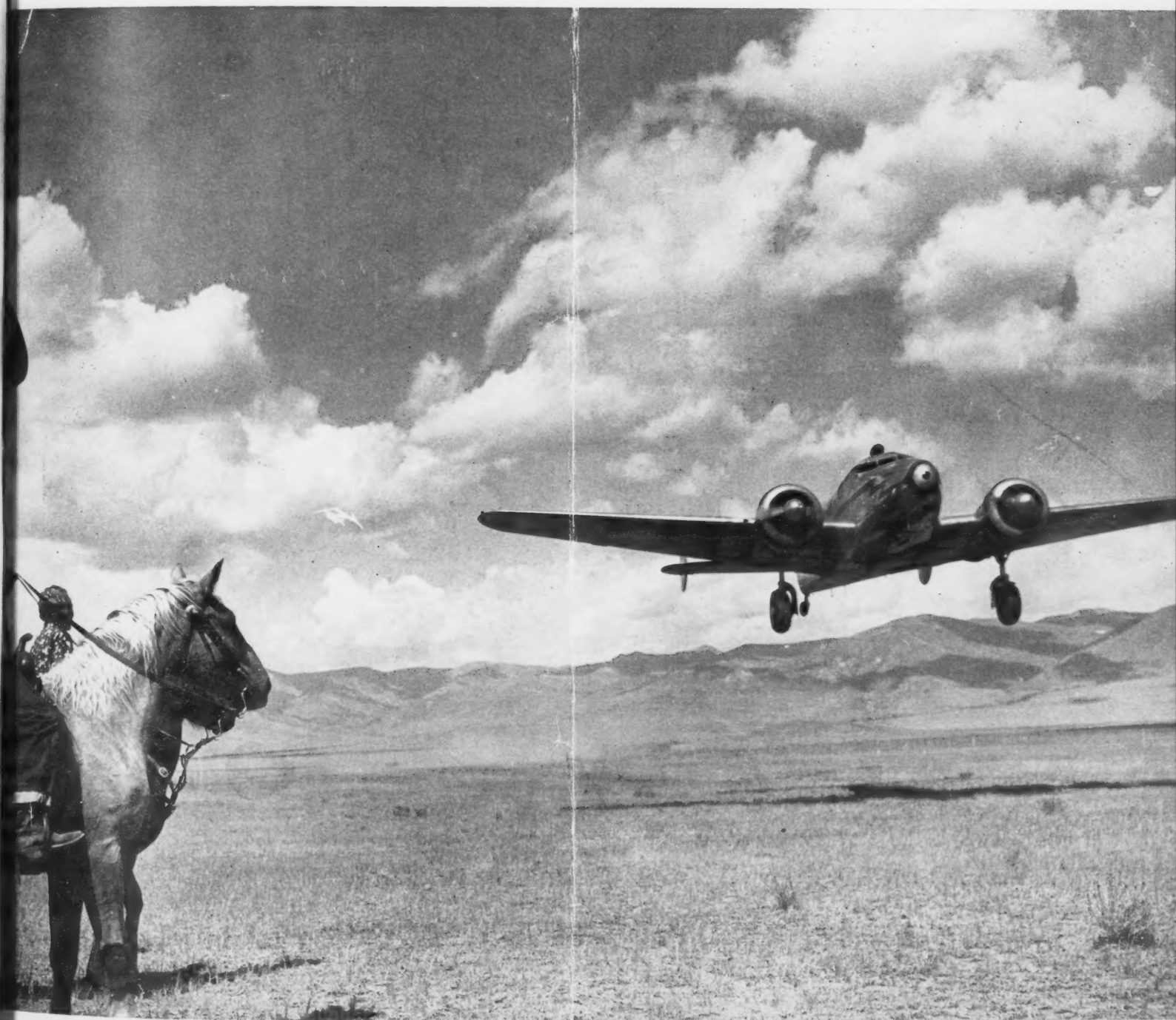


# AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

DECEMBER 1941



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# LETTERS

## HEREFORDS IN HAWAII

Conditions in the Hawaiian Islands this year have been excellent. Prices are the highest they have been in years. Of the beef that is consumed here, about 40 per cent is produced here. At the present there are about 150,000 head of beef cattle in the Islands, and of this number about 90 per cent are of Hereford denomination. The ranges are in good conditions now, as we have had rains lately. For about six months the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Hawaii were in a rare dry season that was so severe that many ranchers had to supplement. I enjoy your publication very much, and above all I think the articles by H. W. French are worth the price of many subscriptions. I pass these articles to many ranchers.—AMBROSE CATES, Honolulu, Hawaii.

## GOOD OLD U. S. A.

Most stockmen in western North Dakota have ample feed supply for several years. There is more grass than any time in the last ten years. Funds are enough to pay their bills, plus income taxes and what taxes "have you not." Sometimes I wonder where the New Deal and the more abundant life is going to take us or leave us. But I am still glad and happy that we can take it all with a smile and that we are living in the Good Old U. S. A.—CARL SIVERTS, Dunn County, N. D.

## WORLDS OF RAIN

We had worlds of rain—too much—this summer. Some of us lost a lot of hay because of it. However, we're culling our herds out well so we won't be too short on feed, and we've been getting good prices by selling at home. Next year ought to be great with "clean" herds, lots of feed, and, we hope, a good market.—W. B. WARD, Park County, Mont.

## FEWER FEEDER CATTLE

Probably not over two-thirds as many feeder cattle and calves have been purchased in this section as a year ago, such cattle costing too much compared with prices for fat cattle. Corn crop is pretty good in this and most other parts of Iowa. Husking is nearly ten days earlier than usual.—CARL W. BLOMGREN, Buena Vista County, Iowa.

## BADLANDS RANGE THE BEST

The range in the Little Missouri badlands is the best I have seen. All stock is in A-1 condition. Stock water is plentiful. It is a little too wet for good haying but everybody has plenty of feed. All stockmen in this area are feeling fine.—CHRIST STENSRUD, McKenzie County, N. D.

## FRESH FRUIT IN SEASON

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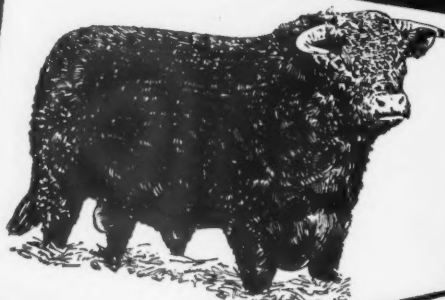


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# AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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Number 7

## BEEF CATTLE BREEDING ON THE RANGE

By W. H. BLACK

*United States Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Industry*

WHEN ONE VISITS LIVESTOCK expositions and state fairs and observes the vast number of high-quality beef cattle, whether they be Herefords, Shorthorns, or Aberdeen-Angus, he marvels at the degree of excellence in conformation, type, and uniformity possessed by most of them. I recently asked a prominent breeder of Hereford cattle in England who had visited the Argentine many times just how our cattle in

the United States compared with those in England and Argentina, and he replied something like this: "While there are perhaps a few specimens in these countries that would excel the cattle in the United States, yet you have far greater numbers of really good cattle and the average quality of beef cattle in the United States would be much higher than that in both Great Britain and the Argentine." He expressed great amaze-

ment at the high standard of excellence in such a vast population of breeding cattle.

I think most of us will agree that a fine job has been done by breeders themselves in developing the modern types of today. They have accomplished this largely by the use of carefully selected breeding stock, greater emphasis of course being placed on bulls that have a good show record back of them. I am

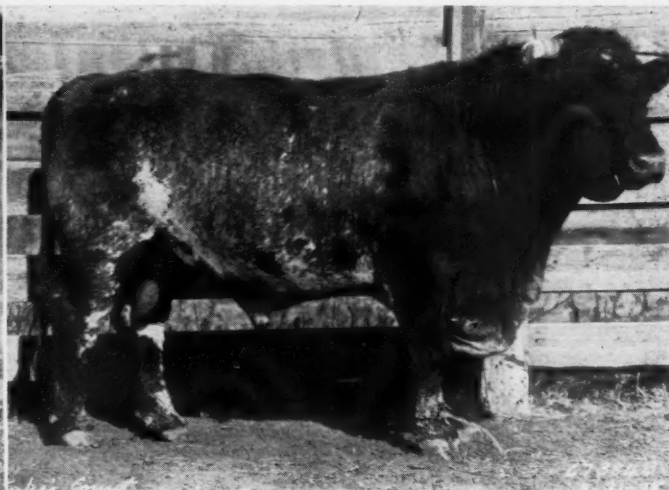
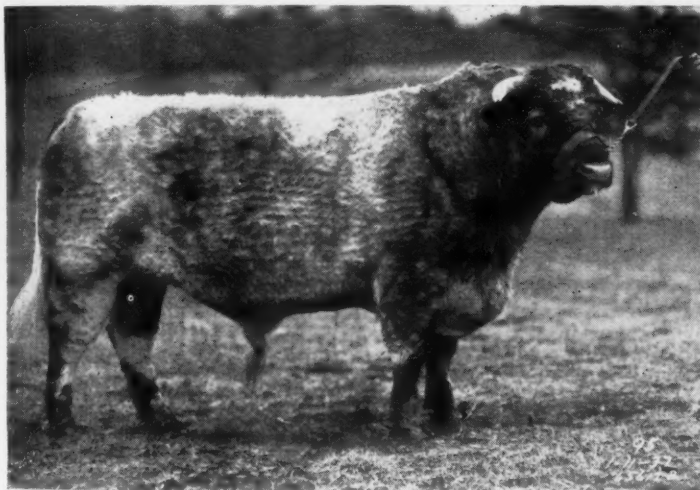


Figure 1, at top left: Shorthorn bull "A" represents a desirable type with good conformation and quality. Figure 2, top right: Shorthorn bull "B"—not so "typy" as bull "A," but his calves showed more uniformity in type and quality and made greater returns when fattened in the feed-lot. Figure 3, bottom left: Bulls that produced the right kind of feeder calves. Figure 4, bottom right: Steers showing plenty of quality. Produced on same ranch, using the sires illustrated in Figure 3.

not going to condemn such a system, for I am sure the high standard of excellence in our outstanding purebred herds today can be attributed in part at least to such a practice. I experience a thrill when I look over the wide backs, deep bodies, thick loins, short necks and legs, and smooth, deep covering over the well-sprung ribs of breeding cattle as well as slaughter steers that one observes at the breeding shows. While the breeding qualities may be impaired in the case of some highly fitted breeding cattle, yet the response of the cattle to feed is an important factor to consider. Good breeding and feeding principles go hand in hand in the development of superior cattle. In fact, if cattle are not bred to respond well to liberal feeding, the high quality and finish desired in the principal marketable product, beef, cannot be attained. However, I would rather judge the feeding quality of breeding cattle by the performance of their steers fattened out for slaughter purposes, and will welcome the day when valuable breeding cattle will not be so highly fitted for exhibition purposes.

Possibly too much attention has been given to the looks of an animal when selection is being made. As stated heretofore, much progress has been made by the selection of breeding cattle on appearance and pedigrees of their ancestors. Individual performance has been given some consideration, but usually this has been limited to a general observation of a rather small population of the offspring.

**I**T IS believed the time is now opportune for breeders to give more emphasis to progeny tests based on the performance of the offspring. Even though a certain sire may be proved through satisfactory performance records of a representative number of his calves, this is no assurance that each one of his calves will in turn perform like his sire. We may prove bulls and know that certain desirable factors are present in their make-up, but we have no assurance as to what combinations will show up in a certain individual among the offspring.

Our purebred herds, generally speaking, do not breed true for those characters most desired. We frequently find greater differences in certain performance factors between individuals having the same sire than is the case between the averages of offspring by different sires. We have even found highly significant differences in the performance of full brothers. The two Shorthorn bulls illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 are full brothers. Their steer offspring, handled under identical conditions in the feed-lot, reacted quite differently to the fattening ration as regards daily gains, feed utilization efficiency, and carcass grade. If one were to choose between these bulls on appearance alone, there would be little doubt as to which would be selected. The good-looking one (bull "A") would, in most instances, be preferred over "B,"

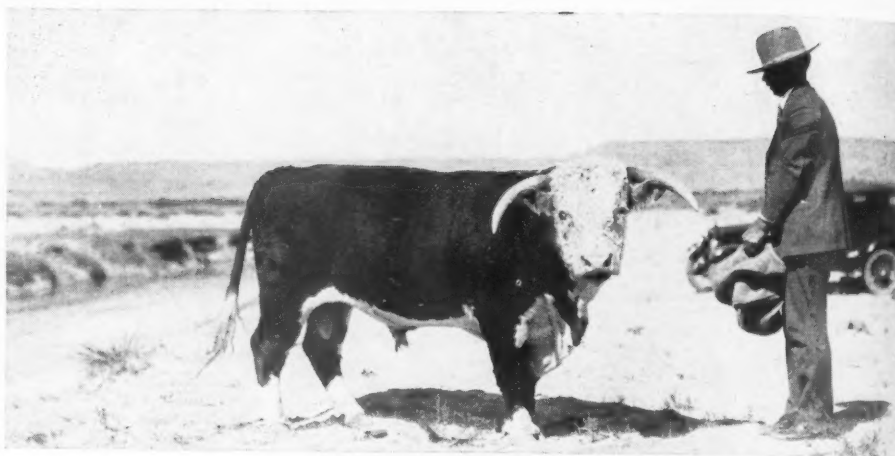


Figure 5, above: The late T. E. Mitchell, of the Tequesquite Ranch in New Mexico, watching one of his good bulls enjoying his supplement of concentrated feed under range conditions. Below: The kind of calves sought by many Corn Belt Feeders.

but the calves of the latter were heavier at weaning time, were more rapid and efficient gainers following weaning, and graded higher in meat quality when slaughtered at about 900 pounds' weight.

The characters most desired in the beef animal, as well as the ones that are undesirable, are affected by heredity. The factors which are transmitted to the offspring are largely a matter of chance, and one therefore cannot estimate with much certainty whether or not an animal seemingly approaching his ideal will reproduce similar offspring in a given environment. At least, one might proceed with his breeding program on the assumption that breeding cattle having highly desirable dominant characters are a better gamble than those not having them.

Pedigree and individuality in the past have been about the only bases on which one could be governed in the selection of breeding beef cattle. It seems that we have now reached the place where some consideration should be given to individual performance and progeny tests. There are perhaps several proved beef bulls in use over the country, but seldom are they offered for sale. It has been the policy of the breeders owning them to hold on to them as long as they are useful in their herds. Many progressive

beef-cattle breeders are beginning to give more thought to progeny tests and the use of proved bulls. Breeders who have large-scale operations requiring the use of several bulls know pretty well, when the calves are weaned, which of the bulls is doing the best job for them. If a breeder is maintaining several herds, for example, and practices a controlled breeding season, its being constant for each herd, the heaviest group of calves at one year of age, provided all groups are handled identically, will be sired by the bull that is doing the most good.

**W**E MUST not overlook uniformity in calf crops as regards quality, conformation, and type. If the cows used in the several herds as well as the bulls heading them are pretty much of the same type, we would expect no wide variation in these respects, particularly in the averages for the groups. It is believed that if one would select the heaviest calves at a constant age, possibly as yearlings, other factors being equal, for potential herd sires and prove these bulls through progeny tests, a forward step would be made in cattle breeding. High-grade or commercial cow herds would serve just as well for these tests as purebred cows.

A progeny test could be made with

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any class of offspring—bull calves, steers, or heifers. It would not be desirable to mix sexes in such a test. The important thing to consider in any test of this kind is that all calves are handled identically, using the same length of feeding period and the same combination of feeds. In fact, all environmental factors should be the same. Every calf, however, should be fed *ad libitum*—all the feed it desires. If bulls or heifers are being fed on a test of this kind, they should not be fed so long as steers; for there would be little justification for putting the same high degree of finish on them as on slaughter steers. Individual feeding is perhaps preferable to group feeding; but for all practical purposes, and certainly for the private breeder, feeding by sire groups, handling each group identically, should enable one to determine which bulls being tested under a progeny test of this kind are siring the most desirable calves.

Feeding efficiency, or the ability to use feed efficiently, is one of the very important factors to consider in the offspring. This can be determined only by the keeping of accurate records of feed consumption and of the gains made by the calves on the feed consumed. Accurate weighing scales must be available for such a test. If group feeding is done, one must compare the average figures for the cattle in one group with those in another. If individual feeding is done, one has the opportunity to compare any individual calf with any other in the group and therefore study the variability among offspring sired by a certain bull,

thus making it possible to study the sire's ability to produce calves that perform uniformly.

In addition to efficiency in feed utilization, one should have a measure of the physical "make-up" of the calf, taking into consideration the more important characters, such as scale, thickness, smoothness, and depth and width of the body from the beef viewpoint. In the case of slaughter calves, a measure of the quality and quantity of beef should be obtained. The most desired calf would probably not be the most efficient one; for frequently calves are extremely efficient in feed utilization but have neither the conformation nor quality desired.

**N**OT only is it important to use the right kind of bulls, proved for efficiency, fertility, quality of products, etc., but it is likewise important to keep them in good condition, particularly from a few months previous to and during the breeding season. Cows, too, should enter the breeding season in good, thrifty condition. There is perhaps no factor which has greater influence on the percentage calf crop than the condition of the herd at the beginning of the breeding season. Breeding cattle should be kept in a thrifty condition, avoiding extremes in either direction. Perhaps a little lack of condition would be preferable to too much.

One of the outstanding breeders of Hereford cattle under range conditions made a practice of feeding a little grain

or concentrate mixture to his bulls in the purebred herds on the range each day. He had his ranch so organized that one man, by the use of a pick-up truck, could personally supervise the feeding of the herd bulls in a number of herds in a very short period of time. This particular rancher never hesitated to put real money into bulls that met his requirements. He took care of them by feeding liberally when the bulls were called upon to do their job.

Figure 5 illustrates a practical method of feeding herd bulls on the range, by permitting them to eat feed out of a gunny sack.

Figure 3 illustrates a fine group of herd bulls on a Colorado ranch. These bulls were used on the ranch that produced the steers shown in Figure 4.

While the purebred beef-cattle industry has perhaps reached its greatest development in the Corn Belt states (all beef breeds considered), yet the day is now at hand when the range area (Great Plains and Rocky Mountain regions) produces a considerable percentage of the purebred bulls used in the range areas. In the past much was said about the range and Corn Belt types of bulls, the former being possibly a little more rangy and the latter possibly a little more compact and closer to the ground. Today, however, any differences in these respects have essentially disappeared and the same type of bull is in favor in almost all beef-producing areas.

**T**HE remarks thus far in this article



Typical hay meadow in Middle Park, Colorado. Many herds are wintered satisfactorily in this region on quality hay.

apply largely to purebred beef cattle production, and it would be hardly fair to overlook the commercial side, so to speak.

The range country will continue to be the main source of feeder cattle. The rancher has attempted to produce the type of feeder cattle demanded by the Corn Belt feeder, and the finisher, in turn, by the packer or consumer demand. The producers of commercial cattle in the range country should use bulls that have proved their ability to sire high-quality calves that will have plenty of weight for age at weaning.

In most sections of the range country it is good procedure for producers of either feeder calves or grass-fat steers to stay by the predominating breed within the area concerned. The breeds of British origin meet the conditions in most of the range area very satisfactorily. However, there are localities, such as the Gulf Coast country, where certain types of crossbred cattle may be more adaptable. Breeds such as the Brahman and possibly the Africander which have been developed in tropical or semi-tropical countries possess a degree of hardiness for warm humid climates that makes them useful in crossing with the British breeds.

The relation of environment to animal breeding is well stated in the following quotations:

"Ayrshires will continue to remain Ayrshires only so long as they live in Ayrshire, which is not a country of Scotland but a peculiar combination of human stock, social organization, husbandry, and climate. Transplant the Ayrshire and it will become different, either better or worse. Change any environment to be identical to that of Ayrshire, and the local stock can become Ayrshires."—*Dr. F.A.E. Crew. (1932) Science and Anim. Prod.*

\* \* \*

"Permanent breeding herds should always be bred 'up to' and never 'down to' environmental limits."—*Professor J. H. R. Bisschop, in lecture given before Thirteenth International Veterinary Congress, Zurich-Interlaken, 1938.*

\* \* \*

"Success in animal breeding primarily depends upon a balance between the hereditary level of excellence of the individual and the level of the environment under which it has to exist, produce, and reproduce. Any improvement in the level of breeding—that is, in the hereditary potentialities for greater or more rapid production—must be associated with equal improvement in the environmental conditions. Harmony and balance between these two must be maintained to obtain the greatest efficiency in production. When the level of breeding drops below the level of environment, production is adversely affected and the animal is no longer the most efficient producer under the given set of environmental conditions. When the hereditary potentialities of production of the animal are of a higher plane than the plane of its environment, the animal will suffer, re-

sulting in a decline in development, growth, production, or reproduction."—*Professor F. N. Bonsma. Series 1: Agriculture, No. 39. Publications of the University of Pretoria, South Africa.*

\* \* \*

Breeders of the popular breeds of British origin need not become alarmed if there are limited areas in this country where crossbred cattle, resulting from crossing the *Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus* species, may have some advantages over the strictly straight-bred cattle, for even in these areas there will likely be an ever-increasing demand for good purebred bulls of the breeds having British origin. Crossbreeding work in the Gulf Coast country has clearly demonstrated the wisdom of having the *Bos*

*indicus* blood in the females, thus leaving a good market for purebred bulls of the *Bos taurus* species.

We are going to see an increased demand also for purebred beef bulls in such South American countries as Colombia and Venezuela and in many islands of the Caribbean. There have already been many sizable shipments to many of these countries during the past three years. The climate and environment in general in the countries bordering the Caribbean Sea are somewhat unfavorable to the production of purebred beef cattle. However, the native cattle are extremely hardy and the "Criollo" cow makes an excellent foundation female to use with imported beef bulls from the United States.

## PICTURESQUE SALT LAKE EXTENDS HER WELCOME

By WINIFRED P. RALLS

FEW PLACES IN THE HISTORY OF the world have had their inception in such forces as those which brought about the founding of Salt Lake City and Utah. Few places have had as a consequence such a rich and dramatic history as Utah has had in the ninety-three years since its founding. Few states today have the wealth of historic lore which Utah holds out to the visitor.

To the cattlemen of the West, who will convene at Salt Lake City on January 7-9, 1942, for the forty-fifth annual con-

vention of the American National Live Stock Association, this history must be doubly interesting, for it is written in the same important chapter on the development of the West that records the pioneer history of the cattle industry.

The cattlemen can readily picture the party of 148 travel-weary people, including three women and two children, plodding their way over trackless plains and cutting their way through mountain passes for more than 1,000 miles westward from the banks of the Missouri



Utah's Capitol in Salt Lake City with its surrounding expansive picturesque grounds.

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River—more than three months on the way, fighting hardship every step, beset by all the dangers of an Indian-infested country—then finally on a hot July day emerging from a canyon to see the broad expanse of a valley before them, with the silvery waters of a great salt lake shimmering in the distance—a valley which that famous frontiersman, Jim Bridger, said was worthless and could not produce an ear of corn.

Picture the leader of the courageous band of pioneers, Brigham Young, looking upon this unpromising valley, almost treeless, a gray expanse of sagebrush, pronouncing it journey's end. "This is the place," he said. That was July 24, 1847.

So an encampment was made. An attempt was made to plow the sun-baked earth to get in a late crop. But more than one plow was broken by the stubborn soil. Then water was diverted from one of the creeks, and the soil was made tillable and irrigation was born in the desert.

The colonizers had faith in the sagebrush soil. Their plowing and planting on those memorable days, July 24 and 25, 1847, marked the beginning of a system "that has made the produce of the west-

ern farm a competing force in the world's market." Plowing and planting were continued during the summer, and in the autumn hundreds of acres of land were cleared.

Farming in the valley was pursued by all the people. Plowing and planting were continued through the first winter; for the season was a mild one. By the summer of 1848, over 6,000 acres of land were brought under cultivation. The hardships and setbacks common to all new colonies were not escaped by the Mormons. A scourge of crickets threatened devastation of their crops in the summer of 1848, when miraculously, as if in answer to their prayers, hordes of seagulls swooped down upon the pests and devoured them. In grateful memory to the seagulls, there stands in Temple Square today in Salt Lake City a monument to these birds, said to be the only monument to wild bird life in the world.

The people began planting gardens and plowing the land beyond the city limits. The head of every family had a tract of land, which became an industrial and economic unit. There was little money in circulation, and the people bartered whatever they had in surplus.

Land was not sold to settlers outright, but each family was allotted a share to till for private profit as long as it was thrifty and industrious. None was allowed to accumulate a large estate and the industrious poor were given advantages in competition with their richer neighbors. The purchase of supplies and the sale of produce was carried on through a common store, while irrigation works to provide water for the arid soil were built by community action and service rights granted to all the families on equitable terms. Iron, woolen, printing, and mining industries were managed also on the co-operative principles, fair wages being paid and the profits going into the common chest for the promotion of fresh undertakings.

By Monday, August 22, 1847, the city was laid out by proper survey, and, at a general meeting of all the colonists under President Young, it was moved and seconded to call the city the "City of the Great Salt Lake." During the summer and autumn a fort was built of adobes and logs. This was for protection. Within the fort were small dwellings of one and two rooms to which the families were assigned. Here the people lived during the first winter and experienced all the hardships incident to pioneer life.

By the summer of 1849, 8,000 acres of land had been surveyed and platted into five- and ten-acre lots. The small farms were given to the heads of families by lots, and they were to build their houses, fence their land, and help build irrigating ditches from the main ditch and canal. During the year, three grist mills were operating as well as seven saw mills.

In 1851 Salt Lake City was chartered by the territorial legislature, which provided for the first officers of the city to be appointed by the legislature. The charter is interesting, for it indicated the fact that the colonizers of Utah were reared to an interest in and knowledge of municipal and civil life. The charter provided for a mayor, four aldermen, and nine councilors. The city council had the power to establish, support, and regulate common schools; to make regulations for the prevention of the spread of contagious diseases; to license, tax, and regulate theatrical and other exhibitions, shows, and amusements; to provide for the extinguishing of fires; and to establish a standard of weights and measures, etc.

Salt Lake City was laid out on the square plan of city building with broad streets. The broad straight streets offer facilities in our modern advancement for opportunities which older cities do not enjoy. There is space for parking on both sides of the street, leaving sufficient room for travel. It has been said that "Brigham Young and the pioneers built better than we knew—perhaps not better than they knew."

Unlike the average frontier city of America, Salt Lake City had a type of people cultured and religious. Public buildings were erected which were characterized by architectural beauty. It was



Salt Lake City's wide main street which the pioneers laid out "better than they knew."

the hope of the Mormons to build up a community of their own in the mountains where, isolated from the rest of the world, they might be free to work out their own temporal and spiritual salvation. This hope, however, was shattered when in 1849 the gold rush to California began. Salt Lake City was in the direct route of the gold seekers. It became, naturally, a stop-over place in the desert, a travel center, a supply depot. And so it remains today—an important point on the modern lanes of rail, highway, and air travel.

Delegates to the American National Live Stock Association convention could find no more convenient point at which to hold their convention. Salt Lake City is literally in the center of the cattle-growing West, easily reached from every point. Salt Lake City extends welcome to the cattlemen on their forty-fifth annual meeting.

## THE BALANCE OF THE SWINGING BEAM

By FRANK W. MILLER

**WEIGHING IS ALMOST AS OLD AS** commercial agriculture itself. The picture writing of the Egyptians, inscribed on their temples many hundreds of years ago, shows goods being weighed. And while history does not record it, the people of the distant past probably clamored and worked for truth in weighing—for an accurate balance of the scale. These efforts have not abated down through the ages, and today there are standards and treaties among nations so that men can barter and trade with more confidence in the accuracy of the weight.

Our own government shares this keen interest in accurate scales, and one of the functions of the Agricultural Marketing Service is to work for honest weighing of livestock and poultry at

markets supervised under the Packers and Stockyards Act. Over 2,000 tests of scales were made at supervised stockyards last year, and more than 200 showed defects of one kind or another. Some were bad enough to require overhauling of the scale. About thirty-four old or obsolete scales were replaced by new ones and new beams were put on about the same number of scales.

This work, like most governmental activities, must be adapted to changing conditions. Years ago a truckload of livestock at a terminal market was a novelty. Almost everything rolled in over the rails. The larger stockyards were built largely as adjuncts to or in relation to the railroad lines. All their equipment for unloading, yarding, and weighing was built on the basis of car-load lots. The scales were large—many were large enough to hold a full car of cattle at one time. Beams with capacities of 100,000 pounds were not uncommon. The equipment fitted the times.

### Smaller Scales Needed

But the times changed—gradually at first, then at a faster clip. Trucks and still more trucks began to appear at the stockyards. The lots of livestock became smaller. Many single-head shipments began to show up. The big scales, costly to install and maintain, were not suited for weighing one calf or one lamb or even a half-dozen head at a time.

So, recognizing the problem for what it was, the Agricultural Marketing Service set patiently but persistently to work to get those outmoded scales replaced by smaller models. Some stockyard managers shook their heads when they thought of tearing out or remodeling their big, costly scales. But the change to truck shipments appeared to be permanent—there seemed to be no end to it—so, one by one, replacements have been made. It is only occasionally

that big scales are found in use nowadays.

Whether the scales are large or small, the weighing ought to be done for all the world to see, perhaps in a kind of goldfish bowl. And some of the scale houses are practically that. They have large windows all around, good lights for dark days, and open fences around scale platforms. A yardman leaning on the fence, a gate not closed, any interference with the scales shows up like a scene in a movie.

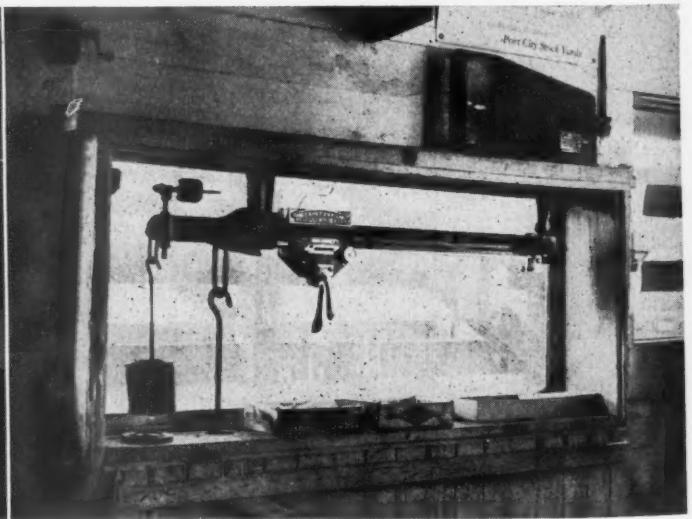
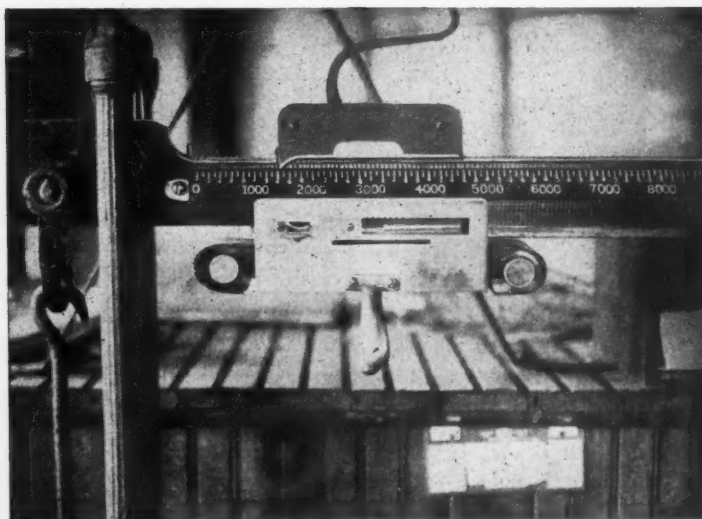
There is really no need for dark corners or high board fences when livestock is being weighed. The Agricultural Marketing Service is having the fences torn down, is cleaning out the dark corners, and is shedding the light of day on the scales. Everybody seems to like it.

### Must Be Tested Frequently

Scales do not stay reliable on their own accord and they do not repair themselves by some kind of magic. Someone has to check up on them at frequent intervals. This is where scale testing, inspection, and supervision come in.

Years ago testing livestock scales was a rather sketchy procedure with a few hundred or at most a few thousand pounds of fifty-pound standard test weights employed. This was good as far as it went, but it did not go far enough. Finding a scale to be accurate at a load of 1,000 or 2,000 pounds by no means proves that it will accurately weigh a load of 5,000 pounds. Scales must be tested with standard weights up to the capacity at which the scales are used. If 30,000 pounds of cattle are weighed, the scale must be tested to that weight.

Many stockyards today have as much as 30,000 pounds of specially made standard test weights and equipment to move them readily. These yards test their scales three or four times a year with this heavy load. If any scale has



The reliability of the scale at the left is impaired by the inked ribbon attached to the poise—a difficulty which could be eliminated by scale tickets of proper design and weight. At the right: An accurate scale. The beam is equipped with a balance indicator which makes for speedy, reliable weighing.

a weak spot, it shows up when that much load is put on one of the sections. When the scale is tested it is also thoroughly inspected. This inspection covers the beams, bearings, pivots, and poises—all the intricate and important parts. Everything found is carefully recorded on report forms. The history of each scale is a matter of written record.

#### Human Element Important

The human element is all-important. A scale may be well built and accurate to the nth degree. It may be spick and span as a new watch. But a careless or dishonest man at the beam can undo the efforts of the most expert scale makers. Occasionally a weigher will accept a bribe or favor a buyer or seller. Some have been caught and dealt with accordingly. Others, perhaps, have not been caught; but they will be, sooner or later. Dishonest weighers inevitably take the one step that gets them into serious trouble.

By and large, though, the bulk of complaints on weighing arise from the ignorance or carelessness of the weigher. Here is a field in which much can be and is being done. Both by written word and by word of mouth the Agricultural Marketing Service is telling weighers how to handle the scales more competently. This must be a continuing campaign if the results sought are to be realized. Weighers, operators of stockyards, and livestock producers must be made "scale conscious."

Nothing could do more to improve the caliber of weighing than for producers to watch their livestock being weighed. Sometimes it is hard, even for an experienced person, to tell when a swinging beam is in center balance. But a device known as a "balance indicator" does a very good job of showing when the scale is in proper balance, regardless of whether the producer knows one end of the scale from another. The device is simple: an arrow points to a center mark when the balance is correct. The Agricultural Marketing Service has encouraged the use of the indicator and they are employed at many yards today.

If weighing is poorly done, the producer loses at the scales a great deal of the benefits that come from efficient producing and marketing practices. If weighing is poorly done, the stockyard is deluged with complaints that eventually mean a loss of patronage. The only possible answer to the problem can be summed up in two words: accurate weights.

#### BEEF SHORTAGE IN URUGUAY

Largely because of heavier slaughtering to fill British orders, Uruguay is now experiencing a shortage of beef cattle "sufficiently advanced in growth to meet minimum weight standards." Growers are said to be holding back cattle from market until the new British contract is awarded, feeling that the new British prices will be higher and to allow the cattle to become heavier.

## BELDEN AND HIS CAMERA ON THE RANGE

TO "PRODUCER" READERS THE name C. J. Belden means, first, a photographer who has probably done more to acquaint the world with the rugged beauties of the West than anyone else, and, second, a stockman at Pitchfork, Wyoming, operating a 200,000-acre cattle, sheep, and dude ranch.

Thirty-three years ago Belden started using a camera. He believes that he has carried one of his apparatus nearly 60,000 miles on horseback and 100,000 miles by air, to click off pictures of western ranch life for his own benefit and for camera and art magazines, travel publications, newspaper rotogravure sections, and illustrated weeklies and monthlies throughout the world.

The Pitchfork Ranch, situated at the edge of Shoshoni National Forest in Wyoming, is where most of Belden's western pictures are taken. "My 'back yard' at Pitchfork Ranch runs for forty miles," he says. "This western scene starts from a flat river bed and extends up to mountain tops 12,000 feet above sea level. This country would make a picture no matter which way you pointed a camera."

Favorite of his cattle pictures is the one he calls "The Whip." It is a winter picture taken on his ranch. It shows a long line of cattle winding their way down a snow-covered terrain in single file. The background is dead white. You can almost feel the cold and the loneli-



Charles J. (Antelope Charlie) Belden with his Super-Ikonta in California.



Belden here has them wrapped and ready for trip to a zoo—by parcel post.

ness of the storm-swept land.

Belden explained that he had turned his cattle out early in March one year. A few days later a heavy snowfall blanketed the range, covering the feeding grounds. With his men, he started to round up the herd to bring it in for feeding. A trail was broken to the ranch and the cattle followed one after another. Snow was still falling and visibility was low. The snow completely blotted out the mountains and trees in the background. Belden disclaims personal credit for the shot. Nature framed the scene; he merely recorded it.

Within the confines of the Pitchfork Ranch rove some 4,000 of the fleet pronghorn antelopes—probably the country's largest herd. Zoos and game preserves, public and private, have for years called on Belden for antelopes—and they get them in a hurry. Belden delivers antelopes via airplane. He sets them down in a far-off zoo or park looking as fresh and inquisitive as when they left their home in Wyoming.

His decision to use an airplane for antelope deliveries came once when he had a request from the zoo in Hamburg, Germany, for a pair of the young ruminants. With a long train trip, then an ocean voyage and another train ride in store for the animals, Belden cast about for a better transit. It happened that the Zeppelin *Hindenburg* was moored at the time at Lakehurst, New Jersey—and just by chance Belden hit upon its trans-Atlantic schedule. Within sixty hours, two young steers from Wyoming were gracefully nibbling German grass. Belden does not profit from this activity.

The airplane also helps Belden in his ranch management, winter and summer. From the air he is able to watch the movement of his cattle and sheep, keep an eye on feed conditions, furnish supplies to range hands far from the home ranch.

Pitchfork is a Wyoming post office, used exclusively by the people on the ranch. Belden is the postmaster. In fact, he is the post office, too, because the post

office is wherever Belden happens to have his cancellation stamp, usually in his hip pocket. "Cover" collectors have long valued the Pitchfork cancellation from the only "private" post office in the country.

Belden is the oldest Republican postmaster in point of service in Wyoming. He recently rounded out twenty-five years in office. Some years ago he met the then postmaster general, James A. Farley, in a Washington hotel. During their conversation, Belden jokingly told Farley that Pitchfork was one post office still safely in Republican hands. Somehow, word of the meeting got to a Washington newspaper man. "Republican Postmaster Defies Farley," was the headline result. Belden's visit to Washington then was actually on postal business—to discuss a ruling that postmasters in his class must spend four hours a day on the job. Representing Uncle Sam's mail service in Pitchfork just isn't a four-hour task, he contends.

On the use of the camera in the saddle, Belden says that a photographer on horseback is about the right height from the ground to get a good angle on things, but he suggests that "since of course a horse makes a rather shaky tripod, I have lately been using a very long unipod that I got in England. It goes clear down to the ground when I have the camera with me on horseback, and it steadies the machine enough so I can shoot more slowly. You have to shoot at 1/200th or more."

The cowman's hat is a help in photography, says Belden. "As I began to take photography seriously, I started looking for the best angle in shooting a scene. For example, I found my ten-gallon hat so effective as a sun shade that I could use it to visualize back-lighting shots that are effective angles in registering the dust created by horses or cattle trotting down a dusty trail."

Strong filters are not necessary in the West where the atmosphere is so clear that a strong filter will overcorrect and distort color values, Belden declares. He has found a medium or light yellow filter sufficient. "I have also noticed that 1/400th of a second is ideal for stopping action in roping cattle. It doesn't freeze the subject too much, yet doesn't affect the sharpness of the picture's main body. Ultra-speed film is not needed with the ample light out West. . . . A telephoto lens is advisable for action shots, giving you a good, safe margin between the point and the camera. . . . A 'worm's eye view', with the lens stopped down to F.22 to get plenty of depth of sharpness, including the toe of the stirrup upward, will reveal the fine handiwork in some of the beautiful saddles."

Do not try to confine all negatives to a small 5x7-inch enlargement, Belden advises. "If you want your friends to appreciate the country, it takes a good 11x14-inch sepia tone or blue tone print to catch the feeling of the wide open spaces."

Besides taking still pictures, Belden

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has made several 35 mm. movie subjects, including news reels for Pathe and Paramount and pictures for Universal. Many of his 35 mm. movies have been of antelopes and other wild game from the air.

Belden bought a Carl Zeiss 4x4 Maximum Palms camera while traveling as a youngster in Germany. This of all his cameras, with its record of 60,000 miles on horseback, has had the greatest usage. Added to his collection recently was a Super Ikonta B with a flash gun to use for pictures at night, "the only time you get all the cowpunchers together, except at grub, and have them sit back fully relaxed or singing."

The matter of photograph enlarging was solved early in the game. When Belden brought his Zeiss camera back to Wyoming they had no electric lights on the ranch, he explains. "So I got an old view camera and sort of ended it out a window, with a light trap around it, to use as an enlarger. The daylight out there is strong enough to furnish the light. And I have my easel tilted to accommodate the tilt of the home-made enlarger. I close down to F.8 or F.11 and print about ten to twelve seconds on most negatives. But when there is snow on the ground, the light is so bright I have to go down to F.16 or F.22. I can make prints up to 20x30 inches. Larger ones I have done in New York City."

Belden is a stockman, you'll agree, who takes his photography seriously.

## FOREIGN OBJECTS IN FEED INJURE CATTLE

By H. R. SMITH,

Manager, National Live Stock Loss Prevention Board

**T**HERE HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION a large number of cases where cattle have died suddenly on farms and when examined after death foreign objects such as wires or nails were found penetrating the heart.

Is the more general practice of baling hay to conserve barn space an important cause of present-day losses of cattle resulting from short pieces of wire in the stomach?

"Sargo," the 1940 grand champion steer at the International Livestock Exposition, died as a result of metallic objects in the stomach May 31, 1941, while on an exhibition tour in Tennessee.

### Losses from Pericarditis

During the six-month period ended June 30, 1940, a total of 2,199 beef carcasses were condemned as inedible under federal meat inspection in the United States from pericarditis—inflammation of the membrane surrounding the heart. Nearly all such cases result from wires or nails entering the heart membrane from the stomach. For the next six-months period ended December 31, 1940, there were 2,360 beef carcasses condemned for pericarditis, making a total of 4,559 in 1940—a loss of approximately \$350,000 for the year.

(There were only 1,584 beef carcasses condemned for tuberculosis under federal inspection in the United States last year.)

### Abscessed Livers

In 1940 there were 510,858 beef livers condemned for abscess under federal inspection, constituting a loss of approximately \$1,000,000. From recent observations on 2,042 cattle slaughtered in Chicago and Omaha, metallic objects were found in the stomachs of 670, or 30 per cent of these cattle, and short pieces of baling wire or nails were found penetrating the livers in 387. The writer, in drawing a magnet through alfalfa meal, has collected splinters of wire too small to be detected in the stomach and yet large enough to cause an abscessed liver.

Animal pathologists say that abscesses may be formed from such objects in the stomach even though they do not penetrate the liver. Dr. E. T. Hallman, of the veterinary division of Michigan State College writes:

"Blood, upon leaving the stomach of the cow, passes through the portal circulation to the liver before reaching the posterior vena cava. There is always a probability that any foreign body forced into the wall of the stomach may carry infectious organisms directly into the capillary circulation of the stomach, in which case the liver becomes the first organ after the stomach exposed to such infection. The reticulum, second stomach, lies in contact with the visceral surface

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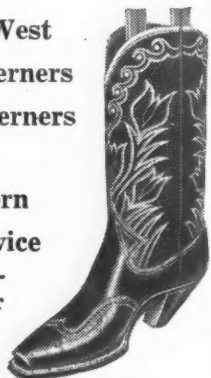
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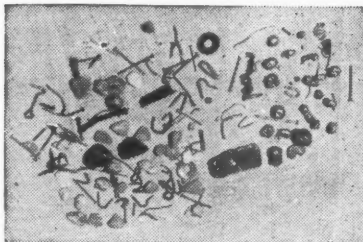
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Metallic objects like these taken from cattle paunches are the cause of many livestock deaths.

of the liver. Therefore, any foreign body protruded into that portion of the wall in contact with the liver may carry infection directly into the liver."

### Losses Large

If 30 per cent of the abscessed beef livers are infected as a result of foreign objects in the stomach, the annual loss would be approximately \$300,000 on those condemned under federal inspection, making a total loss of more than \$650,000 on beef carcasses and livers condemned under federal inspection in one year from this cause. If we include state and city inspection, the loss on such condemnations would be more nearly \$1,000,000 per year.

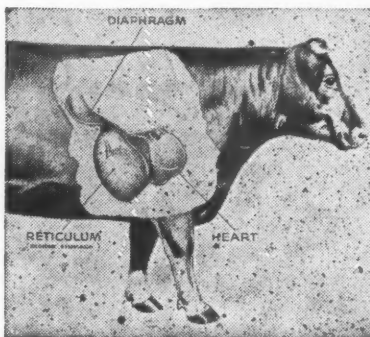
And this is but a small part of the loss. Cattle with pericarditis, abscessed livers, or any digestive disturbances resulting from foreign objects in the stomach cannot make good gains in the feed-lot nor can cows so handicapped produce milk economically.

Fortunately, the number of sheep livers condemned for abscess is relatively small, perhaps partly because sheep are much more likely to reject metals from the feed.

It is impossible to estimate the loss on cattle that die on farms from nails and wires penetrating the heart, but it is very large. In many cases no autopsy is performed and the owner does not know the cause of death.

Here are some common symptoms: The animal is in pain and avoids movement. The head is sometimes stretched forward and the back arched. They lie down and almost immediately get up.

We would like to hear from farmers



The above picture shows how the location of the second stomach in cattle permits penetration of sharp foreign objects into the heart and liver.

who have had such cases and from veterinarians who have performed autopsies on cattle that have died from this cause.

### Magnets to Remove Metals

Large mills often have horizontal revolving magnets suspended over the grain before it enters the grinding machinery. It is surprising how many metallic objects are collected by these magnets and scraped off automatically into receptacles.

Those who have mills on the farm or cutters for chopping hay, in fact, everyone, should be watchful and diligent in removing wires, nails, etc., so often accidentally mixed with hay and grain and swallowed by cattle.

It is of particular importance in times of emergency like the present to prevent as much as possible all losses of this character to produce meat and milk more economically and better to conserve the nation's supply of foods so essential to health.

## NEVADA COWMEN HEAR PRESIDENT BROCK

NEVADA CATTLEMEN REPORTED that the seventh annual convention at Elko on October 30-31 was the Nevada State Cattle Association's most successful meeting.

Leading on the speaking program was J. Elmer Brock, president of the American National Live Stock Association, whose address related particularly to the South American beef situation as it bears upon the United States livestock industry; and William B. Wright, who led the stockmen in discussions on important livestock problems. Brock several months ago returned from a trip to Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay.

Walter M. Gilmer was named president to succeed William B. Wright. First vice-president is George Smith and second vice-president, R. E. Marble. C. A. Sewell was continued as secretary-treasurer.

Resolutions adopted pledged full cooperation in the food-for-defense program; opposed any modification of the present sanitary embargoes against countries having foot-and-mouth disease; disapproved the recent Argentine trade agreement "since it is a violation of the purpose of reciprocal trade, in that it represents a trade agreement between countries of common surplus and does not further reciprocity;" and opposed "moving picture shorts erroneously portraying the application of sound sanitary regulations, with specific reference to RKO news picture entitled, "South American Picture No. 2, Serial 14502, narrated by Julian Bryan."

The stockmen opposed any economic plan to place agriculture in a position of weakness as compared with labor and industry. They urged reduction in municipal, state, and federal taxes by cur-

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

tailment of non-essential public expenditures.

Opposition was registered to any increase in public domain grazing fees and the Grazing Service was urged to continue to keep fire control trucks at abandoned CCC camps.

In another resolution concerning grazing, "the principles underlying the following amendments were endorsed:

"Nothing contained in Section 2 of the Taylor Grazing Act, and no appropriations heretofore or hereafter made by the Congress for carrying out the purposes of this act shall be construed as authorizing or ratifying any acts or things done or ought to be done by the Secretary of Interior contrary to the provisions of Section 3 or any other section of this act.

"(This amendment to follow wording in Section 3 of present act, authorizing Secretary of Interior to determine seasons of use and numbers of livestock.)

"Provided, numbers of permitted or licensed stock reduced to comply with any marketing program brought about through a national emergency shall not prejudice any existing permit or license."

The Nevada stockmen opposed the merging of state employment services with the federal bureau of unemployment compensation on the ground that the state agency is adequate.

## MOLLIN ATTENDS CALIFORNIA MEETINGS

SIX CALIFORNIA COUNTY cattlemen's associations, in a series of as many meetings in October, heard talks by F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, President Ted Chamberlin and Secretary John Curry of the California Cattlemen's Association, and others.

The round of meetings started with one on October 18 at San Jose, which was a dinner gathering of Santa Clara County Association members. Secretary Mollin and Secretary Curry addressed the thirty-five stockmen present. Presiding was Jere Sheldon, president of the Santa Clara association. Secretary of the Santa Clara association is Porter T. Peabody, of Gilroy.

Next meeting was that of the Madera County association, which was held on October 20 at Madera. About twenty-five stockmen attended. The meeting was presided over by President Joe Urrutia. Others present included President Ted Chamberlin, Clyde Harris, chief brand inspector for California; Kenneth Waggoner, secretary of the Madera County association; and Secretary Mollin.

On October 21 an informal meeting with some of the members of the Fresno County association was held. President Sig Hobler and Secretary Bob Johnson were present and Dr. Benson, farm ad-

viser; Spike Simpson, Ted Chamberlin, Clyde Harris, and Secretary Mollin.

A meeting of the Tulare County association was held at Porterville, also on the twenty-first, with President Wilbur Dennis presiding. More than sixty stockmen were in attendance, among them Secretary L. V. Schmittou, Ted Chamberlin, and Secretary Mollin.

At the meeting of the Kern County association on October 22 fifty stockmen were present. Among those in attendance were Hubbard Russell, past president of the American National Live Stock Association, Ted Chamberlin, Clyde Harris, and Secretary Mollin.

The Ventura County association held its meeting at Ventura on October 25. Joe Russell presided in the place of President Bill Clark. Secretary Jim Selby, Ted Chamberlin, Clyde Harris, and Secretary Mollin were present.

Secretary Mollin expressed to members of all the associations his gratitude for the support to the American National. He talked about the heavy emergency work in Washington. Cattle quotas set by the Department of Agriculture, he said, may not be on a sound basis, particularly in the case of California. President J. Elmer Brock of the American National would make a full report on this question at the annual convention of the California Cattlemen's Association, he said.

## IDAHO APPROVES ANNUAL BULL AUCTION

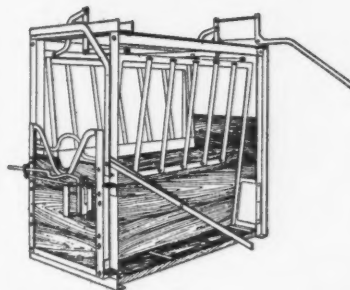
IDAHO CATTLEMEN AT THEIR second annual bull sale, October 25, at Pocatello, sold 103 purebred range animals, approved an annual spring bull auction, and selected Boise as the 1942 convention city.

The bulls brought a total of \$19,395, the top twenty-eight going at an average price of \$225.53. Highest price paid for a single animal was \$340 by W. A. Payne, of Fairview, Wyoming, to Seth Burstedt, of Challis, Idaho. Prices were slightly lower this year than last, but consignors, buyers, and animals numbered 39 per cent greater, according to Frank Winzeler, secretary of the Idaho organization.

At the association's annual fall meeting following the sale, 150 stockmen heard Lawrence F. Mollin, assistant secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, discuss the administration's recent action in reducing tariffs on canned beef and other livestock products and outline plans for the annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association to be held in Salt Lake City, January 7-9.

Reports were given by A. R. Babcock, president of the Idaho association, and R. V. Swanson, of Pocatello, chairman of the bull sale committee.

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## NOTES ABOUT MEETINGS

### AMERICAN NATIONAL INVITES JUNIOR STOCKMEN

The American National Live Stock Association wishes to extend to all junior stockmen a most cordial invitation to attend the forty-fifth annual convention of the association which will be held in Salt Lake City January 7, 8, and 9, with headquarters at the Hotel Utah. Some of the junior associations are planning to affiliate with the American National this year, and there will be discussions of interest in many ways to junior stockmen. The American National will be host to all juniors attending the convention at a luncheon Friday noon, January 9. It is hoped that many will plan to attend. They should advise the office of the association at 515 Cooper Building, Denver, as soon as possible so that definite plans can be made for the luncheon.

### POLICY ON PRICE FIXING

Representatives of governors, farm organizations, state commissioners, and secretaries and directors of agriculture from thirty-seven states at a two-day conference in Washington recently adopted the following policy: (1) Opposing price-fixing legislation on agricultural products that does not also equitably control prices of industrial products and wages; (2) favoring minimum price guarantees on agricultural products and parity as the minimum; (3) requesting all available government funds be used to sustain agricultural prices; (4) requesting "new conception of price parity;" (5) opposing selling of loan stocks held by Commodity Credit Corporation until Congress works out formula for disposal without depressing prices; and (6) opposing price ceiling on farm products.

### CALIFORNIA COUNTY MEETINGS

At the annual fall meeting of the Modoc County Cattlemen's Association, held at Alturas, California, September 27, Fred Ash, of Fort Bidwell, was elected president, and A. D. Dorris, secretary. Speakers on the program included California Cattlemen's Association secretary, John Curry; Huling Ussery, of the Grazing Service; Clyde Harris, of the Cattle Protection Service; and Joe Elliott, forest supervisor. . . . Ralph Albee and Morris Prather, president and secretary, respectively, of the Siskiyou County (California) Cattlemen's Association, were re-elected at a

meeting of the group at Yreka, California, September 29. Chief discussion was on cattle theft, with the result that a committee was named to make plans to fight the menace. Speakers at the meeting included CCA Secretary Curry.

### WESTERN MONTANA STOCKMEN MEET

The Western Montana Stock Growers' Association held its fall meeting in Hot Springs on October 11 with seventy-five members present. The report of Secretary John A. Rhone showed that the organization is in excellent condition. President Neal Melton called on the following for short talks: Governor S. C. Ford; Dr. W. J. Butler, state veterinarian; Paul Raftery, secretary of the livestock commission; Dr. G. W. Cronen, of the Bureau of Animal Industry; F. A. Ralston, county agent; William Mosher, stock inspector; William Shellenberger, county attorney; and E. A. Phillips, secretary, Montana Stock Growers' Association.—*Montana Stockgrower.*

### EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE QUARANTINES

Germany's invasion of the Channel Islands, home of the Jersey and Guernsey dairy cattle breeds, has infected them with foot-and-mouth disease, Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, told a joint meeting of the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association and junior chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association at East Lansing, Michigan. The islands were occupied in the summer of 1940. Russia's invasion of Finland last year brought the disease to that country, too, Dr. Mohler asserted. He emphasized the importance of maintaining effective quarantines to protect American livestock from foreign disease and insure the success of wartime and peace-time food programs.

### URGE RETENTION OF BAN ON TIERRA DEL FUEGO MEAT

In a resolution adopted at a conference of members of state defense councils in Denver, Colorado, on November 1, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard was urged to refuse to remove the ban on imports from Tierra del Fuego, a part of Argentina, because of the danger of foot-and-mouth disease from that quarter. Earl H. Monahan, president of the Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, and a member of the council, presented the resolution and urged its passage. Ten states were represented at the conference.

### NAMES TEMPORARY SECRETARY

Temporary secretary of the Washington Cattlemen's Association is Jerry Sotola, of the Washington State College, Pullman, appointed at a meeting October 14 of directors of the Washington Cattlemen's Association. President of the association is Rufus Schnebley, Ellensburg. Plans were made at the meeting for the 1942 convention of the organization in May (exact date not determined) in Okanogan.

### PROTEST FURTHER CCC ENROLLMENT

Protest against the enrollment of any more youths in the CCC was made recently by the Charles County (Maryland) Farm Bureau and the county's agricultural defense board. They asked to suspend recruiting because of the shortage of farm labor.

### HEREFORD ASSOCIATION NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

C. A. Smith, of Chester, West Virginia, was elected president of the American Hereford Association at that organization's annual banquet held in Kansas City, October 20. Joe Bridwell, of Wichita Falls, Texas, was named vice-president.

## CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER—

29-December 5—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago.

#### DECEMBER—

- 2-7—Great Western Livestock Show, Los Angeles.
- 3-5—Meeting United States Live Stock Sanitary Association, Chicago.
- 7-12—American Farm Bureau Federation Convention, Chicago.
- 12-13—California Cattlemen's Ass'n Convention, San Francisco.
- 17—New Mexico Executive Board Meeting, Roswell.

#### JANUARY—

- 5—Turner Ranch, Hereford Sale, Sulphur, Okla.
- 6—Silver Creek Farms, Hereford Sale, Fort Worth.
- 7-9—American National Live Stock Ass'n Convention, Salt Lake City.
- 10-17—National Western Stock Show, Denver.
- 12—Meeting Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association, Denver.
- 21-23—National Wool Growers' Ass'n Convention, Salt Lake City.

#### FEBRUARY—

- 10-11—Arizona Cattle Growers' Ass'n Convention, Prescott, Ariz.
- 15-22—Tucson Livestock Show, Tucson, Ariz.

### AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

## LET'S ALL GO!

American National Live Stock Association Convention  
Salt Lake City, Utah, January 7-9

# AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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Vol. XXIII December 1941 No. 7

## CALL FOR CONVENTION

To Members of the American National Live Stock Association, Affiliated Associations and Organizations, and Stockmen Generally:

Call is hereby issued for the forty-fifth annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association to be held on January 7, 8, and 9, 1942, in Salt Lake City, Utah, with headquarters at the Hotel Utah.

\* \* \*

During the past year, as we have edged closer and closer to war, new and unforeseen problems have arisen to confront the industry. Secretary Wickard has undertaken an ambitious program not only to provide food in ample quantities for defense and for the civilian population but also surpluses for immediate export to England and to create "stock pile" reserves for feeding temporarily the starving millions in war-overridden countries when the war is over.

Perhaps fortunately for us, the part assigned to the beef-cattle industry in this emergency is only to supply adequate beef for defense and for our civilian population. So far at least it is not indicated that we will be called upon to furnish England with any considerable quantity of beef except possibly of certain specialties. But, with more and more governmental planning as to marketing quotas and production goals, any mistake in planning now may indeed be costly later on. Hence the need for careful consideration of the program now being put in operation. These and many other urgent problems referred to below will receive careful consideration.

As we undertake to consider these problems, cattle prices are on a satisfactory level and the demand is strong.

How long will this favorable situation continue and what can be done to protect the best interests of the livestock industry under present conditions? Government estimates indicate that on January 1, 1942, we will be near an all-time peak in cattle numbers. The cattle quotas recently announced, designed to prevent any further increase next year, in themselves present a real problem. Many individuals with outfits no larger than the minimum economic unit cannot increase marketing without decreasing in the same proportion efficiency of operation. It should be recognized that increased marketing is not nearly so practical in the range-cattle country where the income from cattle is the sole source of revenue as it is in a mixed farming and dairying country where the income from cattle is only one of several sources of revenue.

### Price-Fixing Legislation

We must recognize that the pending price-fixing legislation is more than simply a medium for fixing prices. It is a long step toward an entire planned economy, because price-fixing and production control go hand in hand. Likewise, the experience of the past few years has taught us that the succeeding emergencies which have been the base for much socialistic legislation are continuing ones and that power once granted is seldom voluntarily given up.

### Argentine Sanitary Convention

The fight to maintain our sanitary embargo is still going on, and the recent incident on Tierra del Fuego in which the Attorney General ruled that this territory owned jointly by Argentina and Chile, was a separate country has met with tremendous opposition. After reconsideration by the Attorney General, the responsibility has now been placed squarely on Secretary Wickard to determine whether or not we will import dressed meat from this province. There has been absolutely no change in conditions in those countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists that would warrant any relaxation of our sanitary embargo, and this latest effort is merely another attempt to circumvent our embargo by means of a technical legal interpretation. If Secretary Wickard yields to the pressure and permits importations of dressed meats from Tierra del Fuego, then immediately there will be clamor for similar action applying to the mainland. Never before has there been such great need for a united front by the livestock industry of this country.

### Reciprocal Trade Program

The recent negotiation and signing of the Argentine trade treaty, which on practically all livestock products reduced tariffs by 50 per cent, is another attack on the cattle industry just at a time when it is doing its utmost to maintain an adequate meat supply. The treaty with Uruguay is still pending, as is an agreement with Cuba. It has become clearly evident that the Reciprocal

Trade Act is today merely a vehicle for the indiscriminate lowering of tariffs, not in the name of reciprocal trade but in the name of Pan-American solidarity. In the process of tariff slashing, the livestock industry is paying dearly. It is not too early to start a move calling for amendment of the act to provide Senate ratification of any trade agreements made when the present act expires in June, 1943.

### Doughton-Johnson Bills

These bills, which are still pending before Congress, would give the President the power to remove tariff and import restrictions on those products which in his opinion were necessary for the national defense. Practically every possible item of import can be considered as in the realm of national defense. No action has so far been taken relative to these bills, largely due to the tremendous opposition which has been registered to their passage. Such opposition should be reinforced at our convention.

### Bang's Disease

There is a lack of uniformity in the programs being offered the livestock industry in various states for the control of Bang's disease. Unfortunately, in certain areas officials who apparently still entertain hopes of putting over a compulsory program based on the blood-test and slaughter method are not giving very good co-operation in further control of the disease through calfhood vaccination unless coupled with a blood-test and slaughter program. It having been conclusively demonstrated that the disease cannot be controlled by eradication within a cost which can be sustained, it is high time that the effort be centered on disease control, and further discussions as to desirable uniform practices should be helpful.

### S. 241

Reports will be made on the progress of the hearings under the McCarran Resolution S. 241. Senator McCarran has been very much encouraged at the information gained from hearings already held in Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada. Perhaps other hearings will have been held between now and the time of our convention. It appears safe to say that this investigation, originally requested by the American National Live Stock Association, will be of tremendous value to public-land users generally. At Salt Lake City discussion as to results obtained up to date and how best to turn them to permanent good will be held.

\* \* \*

We earnestly urge all stockmen to make plans to attend this all-important convention. Decisions will be made; policies will be formed that will have an important bearing on your operations during the coming year. Every state should be well represented in the making of these decisions and the forming of these policies, as only with full knowledge of conditions existing

throughout the entire western country can intelligent action be taken. An outstanding program will be provided, and we will be favored with speakers of national prominence, with discussions centering around many of the important factors to be considered at the meeting. More and more we realize the need for a strong, active association, and your national association holds a position of prestige and respect in the country today. Our problems are increasing, and our industry is growing and expanding. Therefore, as those things increase it is absolutely necessary that your national association also increase in membership, scope, and financial support.

We hope that you will be on hand early the first day—Wednesday, January 7. The Executive Committee will meet at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning and the convention will officially open at 1:30 Wednesday afternoon, January 7. Salt Lake City has promised us some outstanding entertainment. There will be two features the first night—the men's smoker and the ladies' banquet. Along with this entertainment there will be some good fun provided to help make the smoker and the dinner more enjoyable. The regular dinner dance will be held on Thursday night, January 8, with a fine floor show and a good orchestra for dancing as long as you want to keep going. There will be other entertainment provided for the ladies, probably attendance at a noon organ recital at the Mormon Temple and a luncheon or tea. The American National will be host to the secretaries of affiliated associations at a breakfast and to the state association presidents at a luncheon, and will also be host to the juniors, who will appear on our program, at a luncheon, probably Friday noon.

The convention will close late Friday afternoon, which will give everyone ample time to go to Denver for the National Western Stock Show which starts Saturday, January 10.

#### Hotel Rates

We are showing below the complete room rate schedule for the Hotel Utah, our convention headquarters, in order that you may select the type and price of accommodations desired:

Room with bath (double bed)—for one, \$3.30, \$3.85, \$4.40, \$5.50, \$6, \$8; for two, \$4.40, \$5.50, \$6.05, \$6.60, \$7.50, \$8.

Room with bath (twin beds)—for two, \$6.60, \$7.50, \$8.

Family room, with bath—\$5.50 and \$6.60.

Room with shower bath (double bed)—for one, \$3.85, \$4.95, and \$5.50; for two, \$5.50, \$6.60, and \$7.50.

Parlor, bedroom, and bath—\$12 and \$15.

Those delegates desiring to stay at other hotels should address their letters to the Central Housing Committee, Winifred P. Ralls, Convention Bureau,

P. O. Box 1829, Salt Lake City, Utah. We urge you, when writing for your accommodations, to advise either the Hotel Utah or the Central Housing Committee as to your arrival time and also approximately when you expect to depart. This will enable them to have all rooms ready without delay.

The office of the American National Live Stock Association, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, will be glad to handle your reservations for you if you so desire. We request that you make your reservations as early as possible to avoid a last-minute rush. All reservations will be confirmed immediately by letter.

#### Transportation

It is planned this year to have special Pullmans or possibly a special train—depending on the number of reservations—leaving Denver during the day, January 6. All trains arriving in Denver from the south, east, and north will arrive in the morning, so you will be assured of good connections. If arrival at Salt Lake City is at an inconvenient hour, the special sleepers will be set out and can be occupied until eight or eight-thirty in the morning. The ideal train connections in Denver encourage us in the hope that we will have sufficient reservations to have a special train, but in any event we will have special Pullmans so we can all go together.

If you are planning to come by train and want to be on our special cars, please notify the office of the American National Live Stock Association as soon as you can so we can arrange for sufficient space. We will give you complete information regarding the trip from Denver to Salt Lake upon request. Many of you will recall the fine trip we had from Denver to Fort Worth on our special cars last year, and we hope this year at least to double that crowd.

Yours for a big convention,

F. E. MOLLIN, *Secretary.*

#### BEEF SUPPLY PROSPECTS

VARIOUS AUTHORITIES IN Washington, concerned with maintaining an adequate supply of meat during the coming year, have expressed concern over the very light movement of feeders into the Corn Belt since the first of July. For the three months' period July 1 to October 1 the movement was about one-third below that of a year ago. It was expected on October 1 that this light movement was due, partly at least, to excellent range conditions and that there would be a considerable increase during October and November. However, the October movement was disappointing, being below either October, 1939, or October, 1940, and the situation as it stands today indicates that the beef crop next spring and summer may be rather light. Unfortunately, this comes at a time when Secretary Wickard has been urging increased marketing of cattle during the

year 1942, the goal being set at 15 per cent above the 1940 figures. The department's experts have estimated that if marketing could be stepped up to this extent the increase in production would be halted in 1942 and we would have on hand on December 31, 1942, approximately the same number of cattle as will be reported on January 1, 1942. Incidentally, it is expected that the January 1 report will show close to an all-time peak in cattle numbers.

It is not surprising that the feeder movement has been light. It is, however, only a coincidence that the lesser movement from the range due to the improved range conditions and a desire to restock to somewhere near normal levels has held the market movement to a level which has just about equaled the reduced Corn Belt demand. The fact of the matter is that the Corn Belt feeder has lost confidence in the desire and intent of Uncle Sam to deal fairly with him and has elected in many instances, therefore, to sell his corn to Uncle Sam at the increased loan price now available and forego the increasing risk of feeding operations under present conditions. During the past two or three years he has witnessed a succession of events, all of which have caused him concern.

He has seen Secretary Hull and Under-secretary Welles hand to foreign governments on a silver platter tariff reductions on livestock and numerous livestock products, with no possibility of compensating return to livestock producers in this country. It has been clearly shown that these tariff reductions are not in accordance with the Reciprocal Trade Act, which states that the President must find as a fact that the present tariff is a barrier to our foreign trade before he can exercise the power to reduce duties up to 50 per cent of the existing rate. He has witnessed numerous attempts, legislative and executive, to set aside completely or in part the sanitary embargo which for many years has protected the livestock industry of this country against importations of livestock and dressed meat products from countries which harbor foot-and-mouth disease. He has seen a ceiling established on hides far below what it ought to be and not in reasonable conformity with the prices to which most other commodities have been allowed to advance. He has seen the application of this ceiling limited to domestic hides, while Argentine frigorifico hides are allowed to sell in the American market at substantially higher prices. He has before him the threat of further price-fixing action and knows that the decision will be made by those versed in theory and not practice. Is it any wonder that he has lost confidence?

The recent announcement of the Agricultural Department as to its marketing and production goals further appears discriminatory to him. In the case of dairy products, poultry products, and pork, farmers and stockmen are asked

to increase production; and, to protect them in this endeavor, certain floors are put under the price of these products, guaranteed at least until December 31, 1942. In the case of beef cattle, it is stated that an increased marketing of 15 per cent is desired, as suggested above, but no guarantee of any kind accompanies it. It is just as big a risk to the Corn Belt feeder to increase his feeding operations 15 per cent as it is to the Corn Belt hog producer to increase his hog production in accordance with the secretary's program. If one is to be guaranteed against loss, why not the other? If we have too many cattle in this country, so that it is desirable to increase our marketing in order to prevent further increases in total numbers, why at the same time is every effort made by our State Department to increase the importation of every kind of livestock products? Trade agreements with Canada (which have likewise benefited Mexico), Argentina (for the benefit of all South America), and the one pending with Cuba all have for one of their major purposes the increased importation of livestock or livestock products.

The American cattle producer and the American cattle feeder can supply all the beef that Uncle Sam needs, but it is about time that they were placed on a par with other agricultural producers instead of being treated as stepchildren. Only recently, when there was a temporary recession in the price of pork and butter, these commodities were immediately added to the stamp plan list, although both were at the time selling relatively high in the retail markets. But no move of any sort has been made to help the Corn Belt feeders, thousands of whom have lost as high as \$40 to \$50 per head on cattle fed during the past season. They have produced good beef on the theory that it would be in demand, but the Army has refused to buy it, saying it is too wasteful, and instead has run up the price of lower grades while these tremendous losses were being taken. Reports sift in that our Navy is buying ship stores in foreign markets instead of in the home market, while, as indicated above, the production of competing commodities has been promoted by government subsidy. It is about time that the beef cattleman was given a break. He has not asked for subsidy or preference. He merely wants a square deal—and that he has not got for some time past.

#### A LESSON IN RISKS

"TO ERR IS HUMAN." THAT phrase will undoubtedly be used to explain what happened in Argentina causing military inspectors at San Francisco and Seattle recently to condemn thousands of cases of spoiled Argentine canned corned beef. A canning machine got out of order. An inspector slipped up. There might be any one of several

plausible explanations. Such a thing might happen anywhere.

But the incident might contain a lesson for some of the officials in Washington—for those who would like to remove our sanitary embargo to protect this country from foot-and-mouth disease. They would put their trust in a "system of inspection"—not necessarily the kind that must have been responsible for the spoiled canned beef, but none the less one that would have the fallibility inherent in human beings. Why bar cattle from a whole country when we can have inspectors keep an eye out for any slips, they say.

The mistake in the case of the spoiled canned beef can be corrected. It has undoubtedly been corrected. It may happen again, though. But not so if the incident had involved contaminated fresh beef and a resulting outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. A similar slip there would have meant quarantines the country over; slaughtering of thousands of animals; a standstill in the industry and outside it. That would be bad in any season. It would be a catastrophe under the defense effort.

We can keep on rejecting unfit canned beef whenever necessary. But the lesson is, you cannot risk the possibility of error where foot-and-mouth disease is concerned. It is not a thing that you can just reject.

#### BEEF GRADES AND BRANDS

##### IN A STUDY TO FIND OUT AMONG

other things how much consumers know about grades and brands of beef and how much retailers know, the University of Illinois College of Agriculture found these answers: that women who buy beef know very little about beef grades and brands; that most retailers do not understand their significance.

The study revealed that only about one-fifth of 351 consumers interviewed in Decatur, Illinois, could name any government grades and very few could name any packer brand, even though most of them bought branded beef. Most of them did not know whether they bought graded beef, and more than half did not know whether they bought steer, heifer, or cow beef.

Retailers, it was shown, did not know a great deal more about these matters of brands and grades than did the consumers. Many of the retailers interviewed felt that too many brands were being used. Confusion resulted from the large number of packer brands.

Many stockmen who have suspected

that a study of the question would reveal just what this study has shown have felt that education of the consumer in the matter of grades and brands should be a part of the industry's meat advertising campaign; that only through such education would the industry get the greatest good out of its outlay for advertising.

Some time ago, one of the big packers did make a start in the direction of simplifying its system of branding beef and fitting it in with the more readily understandable government grading plan. That matter should be pursued until uniformity in grading is the result—and then, with the task made easier, the consumer should have his schooling in meat grades.

#### TAX GROWING PAINS

##### THE RECENT URGENT REQUEST

of Secretary Morgenthau for a new pay roll tax bill to be enacted before the first of January and applicable to January income—a request seconded by President Roosevelt—has met with a singular lack of enthusiasm throughout the country. The secretary attempted to show that the purpose of such a measure was entirely for the common good—that, by mopping up, as he put it, \$4,000,000,000 or \$5,000,000,000 of increased income, it would put the brakes on inflation and ultimately be of benefit to all.

Everyone recognizes that, if we continue with the tremendous defense and war effort that we are now making, taxes are going to become a real burden to one and all in this country. But the policy of the administration has not tended to prepare the people for any such program as is now proposed. As a matter of fact, the continued deficit spending for the past eight or nine years, lavish as it has been and much of it for purposes which would not stand the acid test of real necessity, has been of itself inflationary and has encouraged the people to become complacent toward the idea of spending far beyond national revenues with little thought as to how willingly future generations would undertake to foot the bill. Now suddenly to reverse the policy and suggest a move that is at once deflationary and a step toward recognition of the policy of spending only as you go is something of a shock.

The suggestion of mopping up \$4,000,000,000 or \$5,000,000,000 of surplus earnings acquired under the defense

## LET'S ALL GO!

American National Live Stock Association Convention

Salt Lake City, Utah, January 7-9

program sounds rather easy, but in actual practice much of the mopping up will come from wage earners who have benefited little or none from the defense program. Many of these will experience next year for the first time, under the 1941 tax bill, the payment of a sizable tax to the federal government. It is not surprising, therefore, that there is strong opposition to the suggestion that before they even know what the 1941 income tax is to be a pay roll deduction should be made on January, 1942, income. It is little comfort to suggest that England has heavier taxes. The close vote on the repeal of the neutrality act clearly shows that the majority of the people in this country are not yet sold on the idea that our position today is comparable with that of England.

It is to be hoped that Congress will go slow in complying with Secretary Morgenthau's request. Until such time as non-defense appropriations are pared to the bone and until such time as the attitude of the administration toward strikes in defense industries is such as to indicate that a real emergency is at hand, it will be difficult to reconcile the taxpayer to the idea that his taxes should be doubled, trebled, or quadrupled, as the 1941 tax bill will do, and then at the same time ask him to pay two years' taxes in one.

You've heard about the loud popping out in San Francisco and Seattle. That was Argentine corned beef, the supposedly superior qualities of which have been so "blown up" for many years past that it can no longer contain itself.

## WASHINGTON

### WASHINGTON NOTES

#### PRICE CONTROL MEASURE NOW BEFORE HOUSE

The price-control bill, placed before the House after protracted hearings, provides for three kinds of ceilings for agricultural products, the highest of which is applicable: (1) Ceilings of 110 per cent of parity; (2) ceilings not lower than the actual level in the 1919-29 period; and (3) ceilings at the prices obtaining October 1, 1941. The 110 per cent of parity price for beef today would be \$7.91; in 1919-29 cattle sold for \$7.18; on October 1, 1941, beef cattle were \$9.18—and fat cattle were losing money. Secretary Claude R. Wickard favors the parity principle. The administration is reported as being opposed to the present measure as being too liberal to agriculture. Many producer groups complain because no similar check is to be placed on wages. Consideration of anti-strike legislation has temporarily sidetracked the measure.

#### MORE TAXES

Samples of what the administration has in mind for the country's taxpayers next year are seen in proposals of a 15 per cent "withholding tax" on the income of nearly every one, increased social security taxes, and increased excess profits taxes. But the tax program, too, has been temporarily turned aside because of the labor situation. . . . As to

the other side of the ledger, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., has proposed to Congress "drastic" reductions in expenditures for agriculture, roads, Civilian Conservation Corps, National Youth Administration, and other non-defense purposes. He suggested that the CCC and NYA be consolidated. He urged slashing in expenditures for reclamation projects, river and harbor work, flood control, Commodity Credit Corporation, and Rural Electrification Administration.

#### FOOD PRICES NOT UNREASONABLY HIGH

Food prices today are not unreasonably high by comparison with other periods. They are only a little over 80 per cent as high as in 1929. The average American family can eat as well as it did in 1929 and have more money left out of its pay check for other things after the food bill is paid. Consumers should realize that farmers have been selling the things that they raise at bargain prices for a long time. I don't think the average consumer will object very much to paying enough more for food to enable the farmer to get a reasonable return for his labor.—Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, on National Radio Forum, November 3.

#### SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AID TO HEALTH AND FARMERS

More than 5,000,000 school children attending 67,000 rural and urban schools the country over will be getting free lunches this winter through the operations of the school lunch program of the Department of Agriculture. The lunches they eat in a month will total more than 56,000,000 pounds of food—meat, dairy products, eggs, cereals, fruits, vegetables, and fish, having a retail value of more than \$4,000,000. Major objectives of the school lunch program include assistance to farmers in marketing their products and the improvement of child nutrition.

#### RAILROAD LABOR DISPUTE

The President's fact-finding board set up to adjust the wage dispute in the railroad industry recommended a 7½ per cent increase for the "Big Five" operating brotherhoods, as compared with 30 per cent demanded, and a 13½ per cent increase—amounting to about 9 cents an hour—for the fourteen non-operating brotherhoods who wanted 30 cents more hourly. The wage increases recommended were proposed as temporary additions, effective as of September 1, 1941, and terminating December 31, 1942, unless extended by agreement of management and labor.

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## GRAZING SERVICE MAKES SHIFTS

A four-way shift of top-ranking federal range administrators in three of the ten federal public domain states was announced recently by R. H. Rutledge, national director of the Grazing Service. The orders transfer Regional Grazier C. F. Dierking from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Reno, Nevada; Regional Grazier L. R. Brooks, from Reno to Phoenix, Arizona; Regional Grazier J. R. Painter from Phoenix to Albuquerque, New Mexico, and elevate E. Pierson to the position of regional grazier for New Mexico.

## FARM CREDIT AMENDMENT

The House Agricultural Committee recently completed hearings on H. R. 5336, to amend the Farm Credit Act. The bill as introduced was the result of negotiations all summer between farm groups and the Farm Credit Administration, so that many of its provisions are acceptable to the major farm groups. There are still controversial points which will have to be ironed out on the floors of Congress. No action has as yet been taken on this measure in the Senate.

## FARM PROGRAM COST NEARLY HALF BILLION IN 1940

The 1940 farm program cost the government nearly \$500,000,000, the Agriculture Department reports. Payments to participating farmers, including county association expense and conservation materials and services, amounted to \$448,755,498. An additional \$26,121,811 was advanced from funds available primarily for the 1939 program.

## CORRECT MISUNDERSTANDING IN CHICKEN PROGRAM

In an article in "Marketing Activities," C. C. Warren and S. A. Jones correct a misunderstanding in the objectives for poultry and eggs in the food-for-freedom program: The 14 per cent increase in chickens as called for in the program does not mean the raising of that many more chickens, but applies to slaughter in 1942, they say.

## TRUCK SIZE AND WEIGHT BILL

Senator Burton K. Wheeler, of Montana, has introduced S. 2015 to provide for complaint against unduly restrictive state or local regulation of sizes and weights of motor vehicles engaged in interstate commerce.

The bill would authorize any carrier, shipper, association of carriers or shippers, any body politic or municipal organization to file complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission alleging that state or local regulations of motor vehicle sizes and weights constitute an unreasonable burden or obstruction to interstate commerce.

# 1941

it has been a successful year

At its closing, in spite of general turmoil, we, here at the Baca Grant, have the feeling of peace and satisfaction that comes thru sound accomplishments resulting from the functioning of accurately laid and carefully executed plans. It was a year of such accomplishments with our 6,000 Herefords, registered and commercial; a year of wider buying recognition by more and more outstanding registered breeders, rangemen and feeders; a year successful as a stepping stone to even further improvements in Baca Grant productions of 1942 and succeeding seasons.

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1,920 acres, fully equipped ranch; Indian River district, Brevard County, Florida; 12½ miles fence, 7½ hog-tight; drainage complete; within M-T district; \$10,000 installation turbines for irrigation; cost \$75,000; all cleared and tillable; rich alluvial soil; ideal cattle-hog operation. Price to close estate, \$35,000. Terms.

2,500 acres, well elevated, productive, well drained; buildings; ample streams giving adequate water supply; well timbered, ¾ cultivable; George County, Miss. (37 miles N.W. Mobile); highways, railroads, markets. Price, \$20,000.

5,000 acres, ½ tillable, rest timber; river thru center; excellent cattle-hog operation possibilities; estate has realized \$100,000 from timber to date; near Meridian, Miss. Price, \$25,000.

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American National Live Stock Association Convention

Salt Lake City, Utah, January 7-9

The ICC would be authorized to conduct investigations, and, if after prescribed notice and hearing, it found the allegations had been sustained, it could order revision of the regulations under complaint.

The commission would be ordered to give consideration to character of highways and bridges, effects of changes in size and weight regulations, and other factors entering into proposed revisions in state or local procedure.

### DR. A. H. FRANCIS

Dr. A. H. Francis, inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry in Denver, died suddenly on October 22 of a heart attack. He was fifty-three years of age. Born at Arcadia, Nebraska, he attended public school there and received his veterinary training at St. Joseph, Missouri. He became associated with the Chicago office of the Bureau of Animal Industry in 1916. He had been in the government service during his entire career. He moved to Denver in 1935.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENT WORLD'S LARGEST

SIXTY-FIVE LEADING LIVESTOCK, horse show, and farm crops judges from twenty states of this country and Canada will name the prize winners among the 12,000 or more farm animals and the hundreds of crops samples that will be exhibited at this year's International Live Stock Exposition and Horse Show in Chicago November 29 to December 6.

One hundred thousand dollars in cash prizes will be divided among the hundreds of contestants. W. L. Carlyle, stockman of Calgary, Alberta, will judge the steer classes. Carlyle, formerly head of the animal husbandry department at the University of Wisconsin and successively dean of the Colorado, Oklahoma, and Idaho agricultural colleges, is present manager of the Duke of Windsor's Canadian ranch.

Climax to his work will be the naming of the grand champion steer. More and more in recent years, young people have demonstrated their ability to match adult skill in the feeding and fitting of top show steers, the grand championship having been awarded to animals shown by exhibitors under eighteen years old at the past three successive Internationals.

The forthcoming exposition will mark the forty-second renewal of this, the largest annual stock show in the country, which, under present conditions, also takes world precedence, and it will be the twenty-third anniversary of the International Grain and Hay Show.

Six light horse experts will pass on the classes of harness horses and ponies, three and five-gaited saddle horses, and hunters and jumpers that will be featured in the horse shows.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

# MARKETS

## ONLY LIGHTWEIGHTS BRIGHTEN THE MARKET

By H. W. FRENCH

**IF THE FED HEAVY STEERS SOLD** as satisfactorily as the light-weight animals, one could tell the whole world that it was a good market; but, alas, this was not true. Those who a month ago thought that the heavy steer market was then too low had to change their ideas because heavy steer prices were raided frequently despite resistance offered by sellers. One man aptly commented as follows: "The worse the market gets now the better it will be later on."



He may have something there. The break in other slaughter classes was more general than any previous time this season

and cow values were kicked around as though it meant nothing to country owners. Hogs fluctuated but the tendency for the month was up. Fat and feeder lambs were worked downward, although slaughter kinds were hit hardest. Slaughter sheep sold to much better advantage recently and the price trend was upward.

The percentage of choice-to-prime beef steers at Chicago at the end of October fell off slightly but still remained above a year ago. The good grade outnumbered those of higher grade by 3 per cent, standing 4.7 per cent greater than the same time last year. There was a corresponding decrease in the volume of common and medium steers. The average price of choice-to-prime beef steers the last week of October at \$11.89 compared with \$13.40 at the same time in 1940, while the good grade averaged \$11.38 and \$11.72, respectively. In other words, the decline from a year ago on choice-to-prime figured \$1.51 while the loss for good was only 34 cents. Under such circumstances buyers should have given preference to the upper grades in the face of the greater decline, but that was not always the case because many of the most highly finished arrivals carried too much weight. As a matter of contrast, the medium-grade steer at \$10.31 was \$1.18 above a year ago and the common steer at \$8.84 was \$1.63 up from a year earlier. All grades at \$11.51 compared with \$12.10 a year ago.

Apparently buyers are not to be favored with all the steers of the weights they desire until the new crop starts marketward, because even feeders themselves admit that what they have left of the old crop in the feed-lots is carrying plenty of weight since they were "held for the market" and the "market" never

developed as anticipated. The slaughter of cattle under federal inspection for the first ten months of the year at slightly in excess of 9,000,000 stood almost 1,000,000 more than a year ago and stood at 109 per cent of the five-year average. Holdings of frozen beef on November 1 totaled 75,500,000 pounds, or more than twice as large as a year earlier.

**SHIPMENTS** of cattle from the western ranges hit the peak the first two weeks of November, and within a short time the run should taper off. These increased runs together with larger supplies of native grassers gave buyers the advantage and some classes hit new lows for the season. Prices at mid-November were very uneven and at Chicago there was a wide variance in the different classes. Compared with a month earlier, fed steers from 1,100 pounds down looked largely steady but sales of most other weights were around 50 cents lower and big weights quite often showed as much

as \$1 loss. Fed heifers were steady to 25 cents lower and usually the light weights sold to best advantage. Beef cows slumped 75 cents to \$1 and the decline on canners and cutters averaged \$1. Bulls were irregular but finished mostly 25 cents higher. Vealers lost \$1 to \$1.50 while heavy calves were little changed.

Where tops are mentioned they apply in most instances to the fore part of the period except on little cattle. Prime 1,000- to 1,100-pound fed steers topped at \$12.90, and these as well as some others at \$12.50 to \$12.75 were fed along with animals fed for the stock show at the start of December. Many of the strictly good-to-choice light- and medium-weight steers were taken at \$11 to \$12.25. Some choice-to-prime 1,300- to 1,400-pound offerings landed at \$11.75 to \$11.85 and some averaging 1,306 pounds scored \$12. The heavier kinds grading good to choice were most numerous at \$10.50 to \$11, but some of those fed eighteen months and averaging 1,602 pounds had to sell at \$10.25. The big weights showed up in the largest numbers of the year and sold generally at

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\$9.50 to \$10.25, including some 1,778- to 1,847-pound arrivals at \$9.60 and \$9.85, respectively.

Strictly choice 920- to 1,000-pound fed heifers scored \$12.70 to \$12.75, and a few other loads were taken at \$12.50 to \$12.60 while the bulk grading good to choice landed at \$11 to \$12.40 and short-fed offerings sold mostly below \$10.75. Some southwestern cake-fed heifers cleared at \$9.25. Beef cows sold recently at \$8.75 were to be had under \$8 at mid-November. For the month most medium-to-good cows sold at \$7.25 to \$8.25 but on late days it took a very good cow to bring \$7.50 and better. Cannery and cutters were sold on late days at \$4 to \$6, although at one time few cannery landed under \$5 unless very light and many fleshy heavy cutters before the break scored \$6.50 to \$7. It was largely a \$9 to \$9.40 market for best sausage bulls, and those with weight commanded the premium. Veal calves after reaching \$14.50 slumped downward until choice kinds were to be had at \$12.50 to \$13.

Several loads of choice fed steers under 1,100 pounds made \$12 at Omaha where bulk of good-to-choice of all weights sold at \$10.25 to \$11.75. Choice 1,300- to 1,450-pound offerings landed at \$11 to \$11.40 and any number of loads from 1,600- to 1,670-pound weights had to sell at \$10 to \$10.60 while strictly good big weights made \$9.50 to \$9.75. Fed heifers reached \$11.75 and many sold at \$10.25 to \$11.25. Best range cows early were secured at \$8 to \$8.50 but not many westerns late sold above \$7.25, while medium kinds went below \$6.75. Medium-to-good sausage bulls bulked at \$8 to \$8.50, with best at \$8.85. Vealers usually went at \$12 down.

Common grass-fed steers sold to killers in Kansas City at \$7.75 to \$8.50, while 1,275- to 1,325-pound Kansas steers fed grain on the grass were noted as high as \$10.25. Choice-to-prime 1,131-pound native grain-feds topped at \$12.75 and some others from 950 to 1,140 pounds were reported at \$12.10 to \$12.50, the latter figure having been recorded on best mixed yearlings. Medium-to-choice fed steers usually sold at \$9.25 to \$11.50, strictly choice 1,400- to 1,450-pound kinds scoring \$11.25 to \$11.35 and choice 1,800-pound weights at \$10.25. Strictly good 1,475-pound steers sold at \$9.75. Medium-to-good fed heifers bulked at \$9 to \$11.25, while strictly choice offerings were noted at \$12.40 to \$12.60. Most of the beef cows sold from \$7.75 down, light cannery on the close bulking around \$4. Vealers sold up to \$13.

Near the end of October choice fed steers from Wyoming topped at \$12.45 at Denver, or the highest since July. After the turn into November other choice light Colorados scored \$12 to \$12.35 and most of the good-to-choice medium weights made \$10.75 to \$11.50, with best above 1,100 pounds at \$12 and practically nothing available above 1,300 pounds. Choice fed heifers at \$12.35 carried back to 1937 and other medium-to-choice grain-feds were secured at \$10 to

\$12.25, while most grass-fat heifers landed at \$7.50 to \$9. Cows taken at the start of November at \$8 were no better than some later at \$7.25 to \$7.50. Late sales of canner and cutter cows were generally at \$4.25 to \$6.25. Bulls landed chiefly below \$8.60 and common light grassers sold from \$7.25 down. Vealers continued to top at \$14. Medium-to-good beef cows at Sioux City made \$7.50 to \$8.25; these prices not obtainable late. Straight grass steers at St. Joseph sold up to \$9.50 and most of the common-to-medium kinds landed at \$7.50 to \$8.50 while cows were usually obtained at \$7.50 down. Medium-to-good grass-fat steers at St. Paul cleared at \$8.75 to \$10 and at one time medium beef cows sold as high as \$7.50.

**S**HIPMENTS into the Corn Belt states of replacement cattle were smaller than a year ago, with the total into the eastern Corn Belt down more than in the western section. Shipments through public markets fell off 12 per cent and shipments direct from the producing areas also were smaller. The number sent into the Corn Belt from July through October was off around 23 per cent from the same period in 1940 and 17 per cent from a like time in 1939. Feeding in western states is expected to be smaller and the movement of feeding cattle has been delayed by continued wet weather. Texas and Oklahoma indicated some increase early but excessive rains in October changed the picture somewhat. Wheat fields are in soft condition and only restricted use of such feed has been possible. The largest reduction from four leading markets July through October was in steers under 700 pounds and in calves. Increased purchases are expected during November and December but these will not offset to any extent the big decrease in October. Reports indicate that there may be some increase in the three Corn Belt states west of the Missouri River, although the increase for Kansas will be in wheat-field pastures rather than in feed-lots.

Stocker and feeder cattle at many of the markets continue to form a good share of the current supplies, and quite often 50 to 75 per cent of the receipts on Mondays were suitable for replacement purposes. Prices at mid-November at Chicago were generally steady to 25 cents lower, in instances off more, but greater declines were registered at many of the other markets. Demand continued relatively broad but buyers were more choosy and inclined to let the other fellow have them if the price was not attractive. The declining market for slaughter cattle acted as a restraint on buyers of stockers and feeders but some feed-lot operators show little hesitancy and are buying as many as usual. Delayed harvesting of sugar beets and soggy wheat-field pastures have greatly reduced the demand for stock cows, resulting in a severe drop in prices at markets where such offerings are usually in broad demand at this season.

When it came to steers and calves, country buyers were best competitors for the light weights, causing a wide spread in prices between light- and heavy-weight animals, grade for grade. Although some buyers were taking only common and medium offerings because of their seemingly low cost as compared with strictly good and choice grades, there were more buyers for the upper grades at most markets and this in itself undoubtedly was responsible for the wide spread in prices between bottom and top grades. Recent supplies of heifers suitable for feeding purposes have not been heavy and the market for that class showed less fluctuation than was recorded for steers or calves.

Most of the medium-to-choice stocker and feeder steers at Chicago sold at \$9 to \$11, but choice yearlings scored \$11.50 and some yearlings of calf weight reached \$12.10. Steer calves were most numerous at \$11 to \$12.50 although common kinds went below \$9. Heifer calves were taken from \$12 down. The average cost of steers taken on country account during October figured \$10.03 against \$9.02 a year ago. For the four months, July through October, the average cost was \$10.06 as compared with \$8.93 for the corresponding period last year.

Choice yearling steers under 600 pounds went out from Omaha at \$12 to \$12.15, but most of the medium-to-choice yearlings cleared at \$9.50 to \$11.40. Choice 836-pound feeders landed at \$10.75 but the bulk sold below \$10.50. There were fleshy 1,020-pound arrivals at \$10.20 and some averaging 1,216 pounds at \$9.60. Good-to-choice feeding heifers landed at \$9 to \$10.25. Fancy steer calves from 350 to 450 pounds went out at \$13.50 to \$14 and fancy 380-pound heifer calves topped at \$12.25. The bulk of good-to-choice steer calves made \$11 to \$13.25, although few late passed \$12.50. Most heifer calves were taken at \$10 to \$11.50.

Kansas City reported some yearling steers on country account at \$11.70 and a few other loads at \$11.25 to \$11.50, but sales were chiefly from \$11 down. Light feeder steers sold up to \$10.75 but most sales of feeders were from \$10.25 down. Medium-to-good steers sold at \$8 to \$9.25. Strictly good-to-choice steer calves were secured at \$12 to \$13.40 and heifer calves reached \$11.50. Choice 550- to 700-pound yearling stock steers at Sioux City were reported at \$11 to \$11.65 but most of the 800- to 1,200-pound feeder steers cleared at \$9 to \$10, with medium-to-good 1,182-pound Canadians at \$9.20. Medium-to-good heifers sold at \$8.50 to \$10. Fancy steer calves scored \$14 and some averaging 433 pounds made \$13.75 while other choice kinds before the late break cleared at \$12 to \$13 and best heifer calves sold at \$11 to \$11.75. Medium-to-good steers at St. Paul were secured at \$8.25 to \$9.50 and some from 800 pounds down scored \$10 and better while most good steer calves landed at \$10 to \$11.

Strictly choice light yearling steers at Denver went at \$11 to \$11.75, and northern Colorado men placed more orders than buyers from any other single area. Good-to-choice little cattle sold at \$9.50 to \$10.75 while comparable older offerings landed at \$9 to \$10, with a few loads above 900 pounds at \$10.35 to \$10.50. Common and medium steers sold usually at \$7 to \$8.50 but very common light Mexicans shipped up from Texas sold at \$5.65 to \$6.50. Strictly good-to-choice heifers made \$9 to \$10 and common lots went as low as \$7. Most of the cows went out at \$6 to \$7 although early there were some sales at \$7.25 and materially above, while common lots went as low as \$5. Most of the medium-to-choice steer calves cleared at \$9 to \$12.25 but some scored \$12.50 to \$13 and mixed steer and heifer calves reached \$12, with straight heifer calves as high as \$12.

**C**HANGES in hog prices were more gradual than some time ago and buyers had access as a rule only to moderate receipts. Although buying interests may be bearish, they had the advantage only occasionally and the downward trend considered certain by many so far has not made much headway. After working up to \$11 unexpectedly at the close of October, the top gradually slid down and at mid-November best butcher hogs were secured at \$10.25 at Chicago. Prices at that time as compared with a month earlier were steady to 25 cents lower on butchers from 160 to 240 pounds and steady to that much higher on the heavier offerings, resulting in a much narrower spread between weights of a corresponding grade. The improvement on heavy butchers spread to packing sows and such offerings were often 25 to 40 cents higher for the period although those from 400 pounds up looked only steady to 10 cents higher.

Good-to-choice 180- to 300-pound barrows and gilts at mid-November were to be had at \$10 to \$10.25 at Chicago although good-grade lighter-weight animals had to sell at \$9.50 to \$9.75 and those above 300 pounds usually cleared around \$10 or better. Good-to-choice packing sows from 330 pounds down made \$9.90 to \$10.10, or practically the same notch as butcher hogs of somewhat similar weight. Good packing sows from 360 to 500 pounds went at \$9.40 to \$9.90.

Purchases of pork and pork products by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation up to November 1 totaled 385,011,148 pounds of cured, frozen and canned pork, 1,422,725 bundles of hog casings (100 yards to the bundle), and 271,336,524 pounds of lard.

There was a material reduction in the amount of pork in cold storage on November 1 as compared with a month earlier although these holdings are slightly in excess of a year ago. Lard on hand November 1 was placed at 173,366,000 pounds—a drop of over 41,000,000 pounds since October and nearly 60,000,000 pounds' reduction since a year ago.



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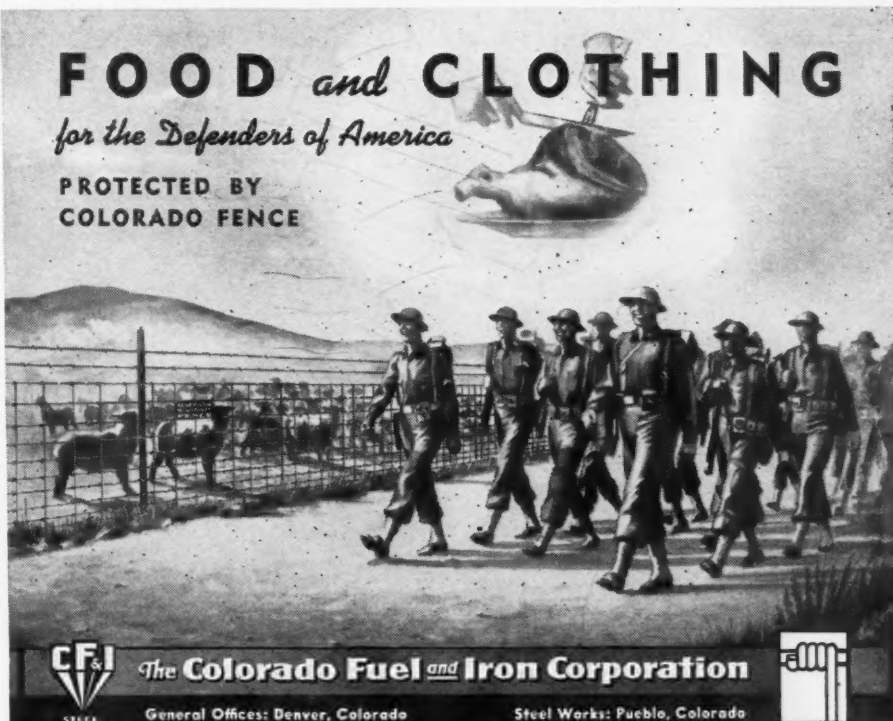
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**P**RESENT indications point to a smaller number of lambs to be fed than last year in all of the Corn Belt states east of the Mississippi and in Minnesota and Iowa but will be increased in Missouri and in the states west of the Missouri River. Total number fed in eleven western states may not be much changed from a year ago, a sharp increase in Colorado offsetting expected decreases in other states. Some gain may be expected for Texas and Oklahoma. For the entire country it looks as though the total number fed will be little different from last year. Reports indicate a greater number will be on feed on January 1 than a year ago because of the unfavorable wet weather the past few months, making it necessary for owners to hold longer to secure the desired finish. The slaughter supply of lambs until April will have a smaller proportion of lambs of Texas origin than for several years.

Plenty of changes were noted in the sheep and lamb trade during the past month. Quality fell down considerably at the markets where range offerings predominated, but most of the natives were of good-to-choice grade. The Colorado movement is about at an end for this season, as mixed consignments indicate. Due to a broad country call for lambs, the feeding lambs outsold the slaughter kinds at some points. Fed westerns are moving marketward in a limited way and some of these lambs were shorn. There was a marked scarcity of slaughter ewes at practically every market and the number of fat yearling wethers fell below that of the previous month.

Slaughter lamb prices took a tumble and at mid-November sales at Chicago looked 50 to 75 cents lower as compared with a month earlier. Fat yearlings displayed little change although the close was below the high point of the period. Slaughter ewes ruled steady to strong. Improved feeding conditions would please lamb feeders, as weather recently has been against good gains. Killers undoubtedly will welcome more lambs of strictly good and choice grade but they must depend on feed-lot men who may be induced to top out their bands now on feed but hardly ready for market.

Late in October best slaughter lambs at Chicago sold at \$12 to \$12.20 although the closing top that month was \$11.65. Since then it was largely a \$11.25 to \$11.50 market for choice lambs although some went as high as \$11.75 and at mid-November best had to sell at \$11.15. Any number of medium-to-good lambs late went at \$10 to \$10.75. Scattered loads of shorn lambs, these showing fair wool growth, cleared at \$10.60 to \$11.10. Some yearlings were taken at \$9.90 to \$10.15 but most of the good-to-choice kinds cleared at \$9.25 to \$9.60. Slaughter ewes topped at \$5.75 in moderate volume and many others were secured at \$5.25 to \$5.50 while cull and medium kinds landed at \$3 to \$4.75.

Not many feeding lambs were available at Chicago although many were to

be had at Omaha and Denver. Mid-November feeding lamb prices at Denver looked weak to 25 cents lower and further decline was staved off because of the urgent competition from northern Colorado interests. Omaha had a fairly good demand but prices slumped 50 to 75 cents since a month earlier. Early in the period some choice range feeding lambs at Denver cleared at \$11.40 to \$11.65 but the bulk of good-to-choice on the close landed at \$10.50 to \$11.15. Some ewe lambs were taken out at \$11.25 to \$11.65. Good-to-choice feeding lambs at Omaha bulked at \$10 to \$10.50, with some early at \$10.75 to \$11.25, medium kinds late going down to \$9. Most of the short-term breeding ewes cleared at \$5 to \$6.25, with three-year-olds to solid-mouth kinds at \$7.25 to \$8 and best yearling ewes at \$10.

## WOOL CONDITIONS CONSIDERED HEALTHY

By H. W. F.

**T**HERE WERE SEVERAL WOOL auction sales held in the Rocky Mountain area during October. Approximately 7,500,000 pounds were offered and over 2,500,000 pounds changed hands during the series. Considerable dealing was done later at private treaty. Prices on sales at auction during the three-day event at Denver were as follows: Original bag lines, 28-42½ cents; graded fine, 31½-39 cents; graded one-half blood, 37-41¼ cents; and graded three-eighths blood, 36-41½ cents. The tone of the bidding at the closing sale was much better than that previously.

The selection at Ogden included some choice lots of original clips and graded wools which received strong competition. Average and inferior wools met an indifferent demand. Original bag lots ranged from 32 to 44½ cents. One lot at the latter price was from Utah and consisted of 47,500 pounds of bulk three-eighths blood of light shrinkage and good length. Another lot at the price was an original clip of 7,900 pounds of Wyoming wool running 60 per cent fine, with the remainder three-eighths and quarter blood. Graded wools ranged from 35 to 41 cents.

Prices were strong at Billings where a very good selection of choice original clips met keen competition from mills, topmakers, and dealers. Auction sales of original bag wools ranged from 33 to 47 cents. Clips from 40 cents up contained large quantities of half to three-eighths blood. The few below 35 cents were mainly short staple, heavy shrinking lots. Prices on graded wools were from 30¾ to 43½ cents.

Canadian consumption of wool averaged 62,000,000 pounds, on a grease basis, prior to the present war and only about 30 per cent of this amount is produced at home. During peace-times Canada uses about 40,000,000 pounds of wool each year of the weight suitable for military cloth and blankets and grows about

8,000,000 pounds of such wool. This crossbred wool for civilian purposes is used for clothing, blankets, and hand-knitting yarns.

Press reports indicate that the United States has purchased all Australian wool in this country and on the seas destined for the reserve storage plan. Purchases include around 125,000,000 pounds plus any shipped before the end of 1941 if within the standards specified. It has been reported that British-owned Australian wool stored in the United States totaled 250,000,000 pounds. The Defense Supplies Corporation announced recently the purchase of 176,000,000 pounds of this British-owned Australian wool.

The wool-selling season in South America has begun and the official opening date of the export season is October 1. Early offerings were quoted at prices higher than American buyers were willing to pay. Russia and Japan are expected to continue buying in South America. Commercial wool stocks in Argentina on September 1 amounted to 76,000,000 pounds, or 19 per cent smaller than a year ago, while the September exports at 13,000,000 pounds were little different from a year earlier. Exports of wool from Argentina and Uruguay for the entire 1940-41 season totaled 563,000,000 pounds—an increase of 45 per cent from 1939-40 even though the continental European markets were cut off. Exports from Argentina to the United States made up 83 per cent of the total, with 35 per cent of exported wool from Uruguay going to the United States.

Recent demand for wool has been fair and at times the prices displayed slight strength, but around mid-November activity diminished and big purchases were not made, as some manufacturers were awaiting word on bids on government contracts. The situation is considered rather healthy and it is expected that prices will be well sustained in the immediate future. Some Boston houses moved fair quantities of fine and half blood wools at firm to slightly higher levels, and good combing Australian and South American merino wools were firm.

Graded fine combing Ohio delaines at Boston made 43 to 45 cents, in the grease. Occasional sales of bright combing half blood wool were reported at 44 to 45 cents. Medium grades of bright fleeces were slightly weaker, with occasional sales at 49 to 51 cents.

Graded fine territory wools of average-to-good French combing length went at \$1.08 to \$1.10, scoured basis. Graded half blood staple combing wool made \$1.05 to \$1.08, and average-to-good French combing sold at \$1.02 to \$1.05. Quotations for medium-grade territory wools remained unchanged at 95 to 97 cents for three-eighths and at 88 to 92 cents for quarter blood.

Twelve months' good Texas wools sold at \$1.08 to \$1.12, scoured basis. There was a very limited demand for fall Texas wool at 97 cents to \$1.

## HIDE CEILING NOW ON SHIPPING POINT LEVEL

By H. W. F.

**T**HE BASIS OF CEILING PRICES for hides, kips, and calfskins was changed by Price Administrator Leon Henderson to a shipping point level on October 22, setting up a separate price list for the Pacific coast hides and abolishing certain dealers' commissions. New maximums for coast hides were placed at 13½ cents for steers and 10 cents for bulls. The change to a shipping point basis is expected to afford equal opportunity to all buyers to compete for available supplies. Commissions will not be permitted except where some service was rendered in connection with a sale.


Press information indicates that shoe production in 1941 will aggregate 494,000,000 pairs. Retail sales are expected to total 440,000,000 pairs, and the Army will take 14,000,000 pairs. This will leave 40,000,000 pairs to be added to the inventories. Supply of hides is said to be sufficient for tanners' needs and there will be no need to allocate raw material.

Total exports of hides and skins from Argentina during the first eight months of 1941 amounted to 252,819,000 pounds against 228,553,000 pounds in 1940, or 10.6 per cent increase. The total value was up 12.2 per cent, chiefly because of the increase in the value of cattle hides and horse hides. The United States has been the largest market for Argentine hides and skins during the current year.

General demand for hides at domestic markets has been good at ceiling prices. Trade was active, following a period of inactivity. Tanner demand was heavy for all selections and some were needed for immediate delivery. Packers disposed of all hides they cared to sell but they usually apportioned them in an effort toward reasonable distribution. Around November 1 Pacific coast sales of 50,000 to 60,000 were reported at the ceiling of 13½ cents, f. o. b. South American supplies were well bought up. Futures often showed an upward tendency. Country hide trade was slow.

Mid-November quotations for light and heavy native cows were placed at 15½ cents at Chicago; butt brand steers and branded cows at 14½ cents; Colorado steers, 14 cents; and native bulls, 12 cents. These prices did not show as much premium over a year ago as was the case a few months ago, indicating an improvement in the hide market late last year. Packer calfskins were quoted at 23½ cents, with packer kipskins at 20 cents. Country hides, all weights, were placed at 14 cents; extremes, 15 cents; bulls, 8½ to 9 cents; and branded hides, 13 cents.

Hens laid for the farmers 2,391,091,510 dozen eggs in 1939, according to the Census. Over eighteen dozen for every man, woman, and child in the United States.



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The government estimates that the loss annually in the United States caused by grubs is from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000. This loss is borne mostly by the cattle producer.

This is a quick, economical, and painless way of ridding cattle of grubs. It costs about 10c per head to treat average sized cattle and it's worth on an average of from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per head to every badly infested animal, if it is treated at the right time—just when the grubs start showing up in the cattle's back. Do not wait till the grubs start falling out in the midwinter to treat your cattle. Treat early to prevent a large portion of the loss.

Dorsey & Ridley Grub Killer is equally beneficial as a pinkeye treatment as it has proved to be almost 100 per cent effective, especially if it is used when the pinkeye is in an early stage. Very simple to use. Pour your Grub Killer into a common fly spray gun and spray it directly into the cattle's eyes. Non-injurious to the cattle's eyes. Get

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**118 LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING, 219 S. PENNSYLVANIA, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.**

It comes in half-gallon, gallon and 2-gallon size cans. It requires no mixing, hot or cold weather has no effect on it. Directions on can.

**AGENTS WANTED. LIBERAL COMMISSION PAID**

## HAVE CONTENTED CATTLE

USE AN

### Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine

When cattle or hogs are bothered with itch, flies, mosquitoes, or other insect pests, they will not gain weight as quickly as when they are rid of these discomforts. Animals that are free from skin irritants are comfortable and contented. They naturally grow and fatten more quickly and look better when marketed.

The Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine will free your cattle of grubs and other skin irritants. If you own one of these machines, your stock will not use fences and buildings to scratch on. They will use this machine, which curries and oils them at the same time.

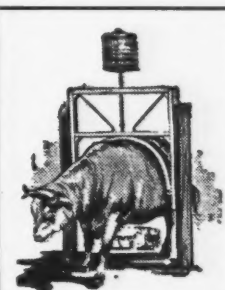
The Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine is sold in every state where cattle or hogs are raised. If you are a cattle feeder or breeder you owe it to yourself to see this proven machine.

READ THIS TESTIMONIAL:

Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine Co., Pender, Nebraska.

Dear Sirs: I have been using two of your machines for the past year and can say I am well pleased with the results. They keep lice and warbles off of the cattle and they are much more contented. This summer I installed one out in the pasture field and it kept the flies off of the cattle. While installing the machine, the cattle would watch their chance to use it before it was completely installed.

(Signed) E. G. Petty, Prospect, Ohio.



We invite investigation. Write to any feeder, rancher, or dairyman who is a user of the Automatic Currying and Dipping Machine.

See your local dealer or write to the factory for prices and descriptive literature.

### Automatic Currying & Dipping Machine Co., Pender, Neb.

## Hereford Bull Buying Time

... Yearling bulls in carload lots ...

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE RANGEMAN

Who Wants Quality Plus Economy

Ranch located 90 miles northeast of Casper, 50 miles southwest of Gillette. Oiled road to Pine Tree. Ranch 10 miles north.

## A. B. Hardin, Savageton, Wyo.

## ARCHBOLD BLAZES THE TRAIL IN MARKETING

By JAMES E. POOLE



### PROSPERITY CAME TO ARCHBOLD,

Ohio, when Luginbiller Brothers developed a livestock market at what had previously been merely a highway crossing. Starting from a mere scratch, last year marked a swelling volume of approximately \$7,000,000, with further expansion on the horizon. This is not intended as an advertisement of Archbold's major industry, as it needs no publicity. The enterprise is typical of thousands of similar spontaneous growths that mark the history of the livestock and packing industry during the long period since European settlement pushed back from the Atlantic Seaboard, over the Alleghenies, into the Mississippi Valley, and thence to the Great Plains. When livestock began walking to market provision was made for its reception at the innumerable trading points created for the purpose. Establishing and maintaining markets is one of the most ancient and fundamental instincts of mankind. The old agorae, center of ancient Grecian political life, started as a sheep market, and the great Roman forum from which the empire was governed 1,000 years had its genesis in a market. Passage of time has not altered this inexorable law.

Since colonial days, markets in the United States have passed through several stages; trading methods have undergone various changes. A static condition is impossible; competition has a confirmed habit of asserting itself. From the crude methods of revolutionary days, facilities have steadily expanded. At the inception stage the common practice was "dollarling," meaning a stated sum per head. As weighing facilities developed, values were determined in pounds or cwt. as settled method meanwhile. Various methods of passing title have been used—barter between grower and killer, auction, and the present common practice of delegating the trading function to a paid commission or middleman which have been variously used until the latter has been accepted as the most satisfactory. As transportation facilities improved, longer hauls became possible, resulting in such large terminal markets as Chicago, Kansas City, and Omaha. During that period Mahomet went to the mountain—an order now in process of reversal.

Archbold, Ohio, is a type of the new

order which has innumerable variations. Beginning with the crossroad "dump," unsanitary, dusty or muddy, according to the season, and frequently without scales, the interior stockyard has been the butt of unfavorable criticism; legislators have inveighed against it, and in a few instances local health officers have closed the gates. But out of this chaos a new order is developing. So profitable has the business been that millions have been poured into it; eradication of undesirable yards has exerted a healthy influence, and as time works along the interior sale yard will become as well recognized as the terminal markets.

Archbold is typical of the new order. Drawing from a radius of fifty miles, it has the same rail facilities as the big markets. Sanitation is now a recognized essential, which is responsible for gradual elimination of "bogs," local health officers insisting on cleanliness. Two sales days weekly, with a continuous all-week trade, is the rule. The only weak spot detected is the auction system, which in time must be abolished by substituting the commission man. Already this factor is in evidence at many yards. In fact, they are essential to securing volume, as the business is highly competitive. At some of the larger central markets, notably Chicago, an apprentice system is in vogue, the neophyte serving a stated period as yardman or in other capacities until he becomes eligible to salesmanship. The interior yard imposes no such condition, has no exchanges, the owner of the plant assuming all responsibility for sales returns. Some of the larger markets provide eating and sleeping quarters for truck drivers, employees, and others doing business there.

An interior market is a logical progenitor of one or more packing plants, creating a pay roll which every country town covets. At Archbold a miniature suburb has developed, local capital providing dwellings which rent remuneratively. Consequently the social and economic conditions under which employees live is superior to conditions of those manning processing plants at the larger industrial centers. Labor costs less and, so far, has been more easily controlled. Department heads and owners take personal interest in their employees, for obvious reasons. Bulk of meat production at such centers as Archbold goes into local consumption or stays within a fifty-mile radius.

All these economic evolutions, regardless of importance, pass through a period of uncertainty. Permanency depends on executive capability, capital, and acceptability of the product to consumers. Vendors have a distinct advantage in personal contact with their trade in which community interest is taken. Obviously the product must be of standard quality; otherwise failure would be inevitable. Consumers, especially meat buyers, are highly critical, so that inferior product would blast a concern's reputation. The problem of the small interior packer is to monopolize his

neighboring market. Many do not work under federal inspection but have the advantage of state inspection, now more rigid than a decade back.

The present trend is in the direction of elimination of the unsanitary crossroads market, usually operated by irresponsible—frequently speculators who purchase weekly offerings and forward to the major markets. With these "joints" out of the way, interior stockyards will acquire reputations; elimination of the unfit will create more favorable operating conditions, attract capital, and put the business on a substantial basis. A definite selling system will be adopted and the auctioneer eliminated. This is not a criticism of that selling agent; it is merely a verdict that his individual capacity for effecting a clearance is not equal to the job. Essential to any bourse for selling perishable property is an early clearance, and, when an auctioneer consumes twelve hours or more passing a few hundred head under his hammer, a fatal defect of the system cannot be concealed. Many of these interior markets are increasing volume so rapidly that a clearance is difficult.

Recently 1,193 fat cattle were sold in a single day on the Archbold market. All the Chicago and Indianapolis packers were at the ringside and a clearance was possible only by the fact that the bulk of the offering was in carloads.

Development of marketing facilities at such points as Archbold is responsible for the declining influence of eastern markets, including Cleveland, Buffalo and Atlantic coast points. The grower turns his property over to the killer within a few miles of the feed-lot, incidentally keeping the point of recourse within his own reach. Dissatisfied with prices, he can with little expense truck his holdings to another point fifty miles distant or haul it back to the feed-lot, impossible when he goes to a central market, and sale day is a social event to which the population of the near-by countryside flocks to gratify the gregarious spirit common to all mankind.

The future of livestock marketing is unpredictable. During the past century it has run the gamut of trailing, mass selling by the trainload at the earlier central markets, and selective selling in recent years. That the old order is changing, if not passing, is not open to serious contradiction. Solicitation of business has become expensive to those involved; an admitted nuisance to the solicitee. At some markets, notably South St. Paul, branch markets have been established to prevent diversion of trade to competitive territory. And still the volume of business transacted at many central markets wanes; east of Chicago several once-important markets have been effaced from the map or are nearing the obliteration stage.

Resistance to those economic movements is equivalent to bucking stone walls. Monkeying with irresistible forces is inviting defeat. As spokesman for the largest market in the country, the

writer spent twenty years advocating the cause of the central market, ever conscious that the effort was wasted energy. The goal was unattainable—one of those "things that can't be did."

Friendly audiences assented but "sold direct" the next day. Ever the volume of livestock passing from grower to killer at the feed-lot or near-by markets has swelled. No answer to the marketing problem is available, and scores of "Archbolds" are forging ahead; interior processing points dot the map more conspicuously each passing year, and replacement trade seeks new channels—a wholesale diversion to highway and byway.

This carries a confident prediction that the modern interior sale yard will multiply, incidentally improving its facilities; that the "post hole" type is due to vanish; that the packing interest, regardless of scale, is traveling a diversification path, with no definite destination in sight. At the "big" packing centers obsolete plants are in process of demolition; new buildings are not contemplated. Whenever a packing house at a center is razed, a parking lot takes possession.

Archbold, Ohio, is not a spot on the map but a semaphore pointing in the direction the industry is traveling. Eventually the mountain goes to Mahomet; the packing interest is courting the source of supply.

Breaking new trails is a spasmodic but continuous operation.

#### CASEIN EXPERIMENT SUCCESS

After four years' experimentation, the National Dairy Products Corporation has announced successful processing of a new textile fibre for which cow's milk is the raw material. The new fibre has been accepted in the textile industry and is being used in the manufacture of various kinds of fabrics. The fibre, made from casein, a by-product of skim milk, can be blended with wool, mohair, cotton, rayon, or fur in varying proportions. The new material—a protein fibre of the prolone family—which National Dairy calls "Aralac," is said to impart distinctive characteristics to fabrics in which it is used. It is more expensive than rayon and cotton; less costly than fur and wool.

#### FOOD FOR THE ARMY

Five million dollars a month is the food bill that the Chicago quartermaster's depot, principal pantry of the Army, pays each month so that the Army may travel on its stomach. Shopping for a family of 1,500,000, it buys, according to press items, 2,000,000 pounds of fresh frozen beef every week and places an order for 20,000,000 pounds of flour four times a year. Recently it was in the market for 35,368,800 cans of tomatoes, 25,000,000 cans of corn, 22,131,600 cans of peas, and 5,444,400 cans of spinach. The depot buys its coffee green and sees to it that 1,000,000 pounds are on hand at all times.

#### HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

	Nov. 1, 1941†	Oct. 1, 1941	Nov. 1, 1940	Five-Yr. Av.
Frozen Beef .....	75,510,000	60,442,000	35,039,000	42,136,000
Cured Beef* .....	14,826,000	12,924,000	13,206,000	15,376,000
Lamb and Mutton, Frozen..	4,759,000	4,093,000	3,817,000	3,646,000
Frozen Pork .....	75,530,000	101,230,000	69,124,000	61,406,000
Dry Salt Pork* .....	65,644,000	95,368,000	44,663,000	40,974,000
Pickled Pork* .....	172,788,000	174,764,000	189,925,000	187,496,000
Miscellaneous .....	63,114,000	63,581,000	53,062,000	56,094,000
Total Meats .....	472,171,000	512,402,000	408,836,000	407,128,000
Lard .....	173,366,000	235,690,000	223,166,000	98,759,000
Frozen Poultry .....	128,071,000	96,701,000	114,257,000	90,474,000
Creamery Butter .....	186,263,000	202,957,000	105,106,000	126,494,000
Eggs (case equivalent) .....	8,246,000	10,539,000	7,339,000	6,978,000

\*Cured or in process of cure. †Subject to revision.

#### CHICAGO WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES

	Nov. 14, 1941	Oct. 15, 1941	Nov. 15, 1940
<b>FRESH BEEF AND VEAL—</b>			
Steer—Choice (700 lbs. up) .....	\$16.50-17.50	\$17.00-18.00	\$19.50-21.00
Steer—Good .....	16.00-16.50	16.00-17.00	16.50-19.50
Steer—Choice (500-700 lbs.) .....	17.00-19.00	18.00-19.00	19.00-21.00
Steer—Good .....	16.50-18.00	17.00-18.50	16.00-19.50
Yearling Steer—Choice .....	18.50-20.00	19.00-20.00	19.00-20.50
Yearling Steer—Good .....	17.50-19.00	18.00-19.00	16.00-19.00
Cow—Commercial .....	13.50-14.50	14.00-15.00	12.50-14.00
Veal and Calf—Choice .....	17.00-19.00	18.00-21.00	14.00-17.00
Veal and Calf—Good .....	15.00-18.00	16.00-20.00	13.00-15.00
<b>FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON—</b>			
Lamb—Choice (all weights) .....	17.00-20.00	18.00-20.00	14.00-17.00
Lamb—Good .....	16.50-19.00	17.50-19.00	12.50-16.00
Ewe—Good .....	8.50- 9.00	9.00-10.00	6.50- 7.50
Ewe—Commercial .....	8.00- 8.50	8.00- 9.00	.....
<b>FRESH PORK CUTS—</b>			
Loins—8-12 lb. average .....	20.50-21.50	22.50-23.00	14.50-15.50

#### CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	Nov. 17, 1941	Oct. 15, 1941	Nov. 15, 1940
Slaughter Steers—Choice, (1,100-1,500 lbs.) .....	\$10.75-12.50	\$11.00-12.00	\$12.75-14.25
Slaughter Steers—Good .....	9.50-11.75	10.25-11.50	10.50-12.75
Slaughter Steers—Choice (900-1,100 lbs.) .....	11.75-12.75	11.75-12.75	12.50-14.00
Slaughter Steers—Good .....	10.75-12.00	10.75-12.00	10.50-12.50
Slaughter Steers—Med. (750-1,300 lbs.) .....	9.00-11.00	9.00-11.25	8.25-10.50
Fed Young Steers—Gd.-Ch. (750-900 lbs.) .....	11.25-12.75	11.25-12.75	10.25-13.50
Heifers—Good-Choice .....	10.75-12.75	10.25-12.75	10.00-12.75
Cows—Good .....	7.25- 8.00	8.25- 8.75	6.25- 7.75
Vealers—Good-Choice .....	11.50-13.00	12.50-14.00	9.50-11.50
Calves—Good-Choice .....	8.50-10.00	8.50-10.00	7.75- 9.00
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Good-Choice .....	9.25-12.00	9.50-12.00	8.75-11.00
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Com.-Med. ....	7.00- 9.75	7.25- 9.75	6.75- 8.75
Hogs—Medium Weights (200-240 lbs.) .....	10.20-10.35	10.50-10.85	5.95- 6.15
Lambs—Good-Choice .....	10.90-11.35	11.25-11.50	9.35- 9.60
Yearling Wethers—Good-Choice .....	9.25- 9.75*	9.25- 9.65	8.00- 8.50
Ewes—Good-Choice .....	4.75- 5.75*	4.75- 5.75	4.00- 4.65

\*Shorn.

#### LIVESTOCK AT STOCKYARDS

	October 1941	October 1940	First Ten Months 1941	First Ten Months 1940
<b>RECEIPTS—</b>				
Cattle* .....	1,741,633	1,700,055	12,377,905	11,645,757
Calves .....	711,755	726,529	4,990,463	5,240,500
Hogs .....	2,541,835	3,112,965	24,188,966	27,174,416
Sheep .....	2,833,031	2,737,135	19,280,219	19,380,456
<b>TOTAL SHIPMENTS†—</b>				
Cattle* .....	868,995	959,871	4,969,440	5,078,308
Calves .....	326,667	364,337	1,912,230	2,178,999
Hogs .....	615,792	730,240	6,309,919	7,351,981
Sheep .....	1,820,070	1,668,729	9,587,932	9,665,985
<b>STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS—</b>				
Cattle* .....	523,965	622,578	2,589,659	2,653,460
Calves .....	175,014	185,903	757,261	765,634
Hogs .....	40,979	41,783	486,209	412,252
Sheep .....	523,403	890,088	2,597,573	2,846,589
<b>SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION—</b>				
Cattle* .....	1,119,000	968,000	9,000,000	8,015,000
Calves .....	536,000	506,000	4,529,000	4,464,000
Hogs .....	4,157,000	4,482,000	36,191,000	38,914,000
Sheep .....	1,682,000	1,734,000	15,128,000	14,470,000

\*Exclusive of calves. †Includes stockers and feeders.

# ROUND THE RANGE

## WESTERN RANGE AND LIVESTOCK REPORT

**I**F THE MONTHLY RECORD OF range and livestock conditions in the West has become a monotone of "very good to excellent," stockmen won't object. But a large part of the hay crop has been damaged by rain, although the supply is ample.

The Denver office of the Agricultural Marketing Service reports that western ranges on November 1 had the best feed for the date since 1927—the fourth month of such reports. In some sections curing was delayed by heavy rains. In the southern Great Plains and the Southwest excessive rain damaged ranges, feed, and feed crops. But in general winter ranges and desert ranges showed good growth of forage that cured slowly and ample supplies of hay and other feeds.

Wyoming and western Nebraska had good range feed and very good hay crops; Colorado, good ranges and ample feeds; Oklahoma and Kansas, very good pastures curing late, also large crops of feed and roughage, but heavy rains delayed harvest and damaged feed crops; Texas, heavy growth of feed, sappy and very late in curing, with large crops of grains and roughage damaged by rains; New Mexico, good growth of range feed, late in curing, with considerable damage to the large feed crop; Arizona, good range feed and ample stock water; Washington and Oregon, very good late fall and winter range feed and large supplies of hay and feed grains; Idaho, good fall feed and generally ample supplies of hay and grains; Utah and Nevada, good ranges, with ample moisture on the winter ranges.

In California new feed was well started, but the supplies of hay concentrates were smaller than last year. Wheat pastures were good to very good in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas; but heavy rains curtailed grazing in Oklahoma and Texas and to some extent in Kansas. A large part of the western hay crop had been damaged by rain, but supply was generally ample. The large crop of grains and roughage in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and eastern New Mexico had been damaged by rains and much of the crop remained unharvested.

Condition of western ranges on November 1 was rated as near perfection—92 per cent, compared with 93

per cent last month, 82 per cent a year ago, and the ten-year (1931-40) average of 75 per cent.

Cattle showed the highest November 1 condition since 1927. Late curing of feed and rains during the fall resulted in cattle not reaching expected weights. However, they have been marketed in very good flesh and at good weights. There have been very few thin cattle. Large feed supplies tended to delay marketings. October marketings gained in volume and information indicated that total western movement was smaller than in October, 1940. In some sections there was strong local demand for cattle, with prospects of increased holdings. This situation prevailed in areas rather lightly stocked and well supplied with feed.

Sheep and lambs experienced only light shrinkage in local areas having excessive rains. The northern late lamb movement was heavy during October, while the October shipments from Texas were considerably smaller than in October, 1940. Lambs generally showed good weights but were not so heavy as expected. There has been a strong tendency to hold ewe lambs in the northern sections and Texas. Late fall and winter sheep ranges have a good supply of feed and water. In the Texas sheep section there was a heavy growth of sappy and rank feed, but sheep and lambs were in good condition. There was a heavy October movement of northern feeder lambs into the feed-lots of Colorado, western Nebraska, and Kansas wheat fields.

## BULLETINS IN BRIEF

### PREDICTS LARGEST CORN CROP IN NINE YEARS

The Department of Agriculture has estimated that 1941 production of corn will be 2,675,373,000 bushels—the largest since 1932. Conditions on November 1 indicated an average yield of 31.1 bushels an acre, compared with 28.3 bushels last year and a 23.5 average for the past ten years. Except for a 31.7 bushels-an-acre yield in 1906, the prospective yield is the highest in seventy-five years. The final report on the 1941 wheat crop placed production at 961,194,000 bushels—winter wheat, 684,966,000; spring wheat, 276,228,000 bushels. Other estimates: sorghum, 146,919,000 bushels—25,000,000 bushels above 1940 and 60,000,000 bushels over

the 1930-39 average; cane sugar, 5,626,000 tons (4,268,000 last year); sugar beets, 10,130,000 tons (12,192,000 last year); cotton, 11,020,000 bales (12,566,000 last year and 13,246,000 for 1930-39 average).

## MEXICANS FILL HEAVY CATTLE QUOTA EARLY EACH FALL

Latest advices to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations from the states of northern Mexico bordering on the United States are to the effect that Mexican shipments of heavy cattle to the United States are approximately three months in advance of the quota. Entries are reported to have been made in bond against the subsequent quota in the case of shipments from the Chihuahua district of Mexico. Mexico ships from two to three times as many cattle to the United States as does Canada, the bulk in the stocker-feeder class paying full duty.

An increase in Mexican cattle marketings in the United States this year has been favored by excellent growing conditions in the states of northern Mexico, relatively high cattle prices in the United States, and a favorable exchange rate. The situation in Sonora, however, is on the verge of changing materially, due to generally insufficient summer rains in the range area.

## FARMERS HAVE MASS PRIORITY RATING

Individual farmers do not need priority ratings. There is confusion on this point in some localities, the Department of Agriculture finds. Where farmers are in doubt on this subject, they should take notice that they are not required to have priority ratings of any kind to purchase ordinary farm machinery, equipment, repair parts, fertilizers, fencing, nails, roofing, or similar items. Priorities on such items are issued to manufacturers, processors, and warehousemen. Any farmers asked to obtain "priority ratings" before making purchases of ordinary equipment or supplies should report facts to the department immediately, says the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations. A farmer needs a preference rating only for purchases of special classes of machinery not ordinarily used for farming. For instance, a rating would have to be obtained from OPM to purchase a heavy duty electric motor.

## PROTECTION PAYS

Unprotected woodland suffered twenty-seven times more burn and twenty-one times as much damage as protected forests in the United States during 1940, according to the Department of Agriculture. Well over half the nation's forest fires occurred on the fourth of the total forest land area still lacking organized protection last year. Total unprotected acreage was 146,749,000, largely privately owned. Protected areas total 435,429,000 acres. Three-fourths of one per

## LET'S ALL GO!

American National Live Stock Association Convention  
Salt Lake City, Utah, January 7-9

cent of the protected area suffered from fire damage last year; more than 15 per cent of the unprotected area was burned. Total damage amounted to \$35,877,000 on 25,848,000 acres of forest land burned. Damage in 1939 was \$40,000,000. Department foresters estimated that a total expenditure of \$18,000,000 (\$10,000,000 now available) would bring all state and private land needing it under organized fire control—about half the amount of the present losses.

#### IMPORTANCE OF HIDES

About an average of 7 per cent of the live weight of the steer is in the hide. About 11 per cent of the value of the live animal is in the hide. In the case of calves, the skin may equal as much as 20 per cent of the value on the hoof. These figures are by National Farm Chemurgic Council. About 125,000,000 hides and skins of all kinds are tanned annually, worth around \$200,000,000. The leather produced has a normal factory valuation of around \$450,000,000. It is converted into shoes, belting, harness, and other goods for which consumers spend yearly close to \$2,000,000,000. Domestic production is about 40,000,000 hides and skins annually, worth well over \$100,000,000. Foreign countries are drawn upon for the remainder.

#### HIGH AVERAGE IN WHR SALE

The Wyoming Hereford Ranch annual auction at Cheyenne October 30 resulted in fifty-five bulls and females being sold for a general average of \$1,126. Fifteen of the twenty-five bulls sold for \$1,000 and over, with top of \$2,600 on a son of WHR Seth Domino 3d, selling to R. J. Miller, Lodge Grass, Montana. The second top was \$2,500 on WHR Superfection 2d, to Vermejo Valley Ranch, Colfax, New Mexico. Fifteen of the thirty females sold from \$1,000 to \$2,000. WHR Crystal 3d, champion female at the recent American Royal show, was bought by McIntyre Ranch Company, Lethbridge, Alberta, for \$2,000. WHR Crystal 10th went to Sun Valley Hereford Ranch, Phoenix, Arizona. The bulls averaged \$1,318; the females, \$966.

#### ON THE COVER

C. J. Belden, Pitchfork, Wyoming, is shown taking off. Maybe he is heading for a far corner of his ranch; perhaps to a zoo somewhere with a load of antelopes. Belden uses the airplane for ranch work, antelope deliveries, and photography.

Just how many ranchers today are using airplanes we can't say. F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, who gets around to most of the range country says that you would be using conservative figures if you said two or three dozens. "They seem to be pretty handy for a rancher," he says. "I've been out

where you see a fellow come dropping down by a water tank, say, saunter up to the boss with a message, and out of sight again in a minute. The auto succeeded the horse as a way of communication between camps, and I suppose in time the airplane will partially succeed the auto."

#### ST. LOUIS PRODUCERS' SHOW

December 4 and 5 will mark the eighteenth annual showing of baby beeves by 4H Club boys and girls and students of vocational agriculture at National Stock Yards, Illinois, according to H. D. Wright, manager of St. Louis Producers, livestock marketing co-operative which annually sponsors the event in co-operation with the extension departments of the state universities and the St. Louis and East St. Louis chambers of commerce. This is limited to 4H Club boys and girls and students of vocational agriculture who must feed and care for the animals they exhibit under the supervision of their respective leaders.

Nelson G. Kraschel, former governor of Iowa, will conduct the auction December 5. Buyers on the market will judge the show. Prizes will consist of several hundred dollars in cash, silver loving cups, plaques and ribbon awards. Approximately 350 entrants from Missouri and Illinois have so far signified their intentions of showing.

#### THORNTONS BUY COLORADO RANCH

Dan Thornton, well-known registered Hereford breeder, has announced that he and Mrs. Thornton have purchased a ranch at Gunnison, Colorado, where their registered Hereford herd will be carried on. The Thorntons recently sold their White Mountain Ranch at Springerville, Arizona. The new Thornton breeding operations will be on the old Curtis ranch near Gunnison. The purchase of the ranch was made from A. A. Roberson. The ranch contains over 1,100 acres of rich meadow and carries important forest reserve and public domain grazing rights. In the sale of their previous ranch, the Thorntons retained the foundation stock, including the most important matrons and sires. Retained also was their show herd which is now in the show circuit. The Thornton herd is made up largely of WHR breeding. Gunnison is about 190 miles southwest of Denver in what is known as the "West Slope" country. It is a famous steer feeding area.

#### NEW ZEALAND FIXES PRICES

The New Zealand government has fixed the price of thirty-eight essential commodities and public services, among which commodities are meat, bacon, milk, cheese, eggs, and butter. Wool and hides are also affected.



#### WEIGHT CARRIES WEIGHT on the MARKET

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Penn, Seligman, Ariz., recently spent a half day inspecting our cattle.

PUTS WEIGHT IN YOUR POCKETS, too. You can have weight, and quality with it. There's one way that's certain, squarely so... use of better bulls, PAINTER BULLS. Anyway you look at it you pay for good bulls. Make sure you get them.

Painter Hereford Company,

Roggen, Colo.

#### T O RANCH CO.

BREEDERS OF

#### QUALITY HEREFORDS

Both Registered and Commercial

*The Right Type*



#### T O RANCH CO.

Raton (Colfax County),

New Mexico



L. C. "Jim" Hoover, livestock auctioneer serving the cattlemen of the West.

Jim Hoover  
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## FOREIGN CANNED BEEF PURCHASES

Purchases of foreign canned beef from July 1 to November for the Army totaled 7,300,000 pounds and for the Navy, 2,130,000 pounds, says F. E. Molin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, in a letter to J. Elmer Brock, president of the organization. Estimates are that about two-thirds of this amount is still on hand and that it will not be necessary to make more purchases until some time in late winter or spring. Molin also said that

officials do not look for total purchases by June 30 to come up to the 20,000,000-pound mark, the figure set in agreement between cattlemen representatives and government officials some months ago, "this despite the fact that the Army has been expanded more rapidly than anticipated last winter when the agreement was made. As a matter of fact, they have found it practical to use the domestic frozen beef cuts to greater extent than originally planned, and this has reduced consumption of canned beef accordingly."

## UNITED STATES LARGEST MARKET FOR ARGENTINE HIDES

Large United States purchases during the first seven months of 1941 have played a major role in stimulating increased activity in the Argentine hides and skins industry, according to "Foreign Crops and Markets." The United States has been by far the largest market for Argentine hides and skins during the current year. It imported during the first seven months of 1941, 130,298,000 pounds as against 68,307,000 pounds in the same period of 1940. This does not include small quantities of miscellaneous hides and skins, such as reptile, deer, elk skins. Total exports of hides and skins from Argentina in the first eight months of 1941 were 252,819,000 pounds. On the Argentine Pampas, one of the most noted cattle and sheep producing areas of the world, livestock and therefore hides can be produced almost entirely on pasture and at low cost. Most of the take-off of hides and skins is performed by frigorificos. Under the recent United States-Argentine agreement the duty on bovine hides and skins was reduced from 10 per cent ad valorem to 5 per cent ad valorem.

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## GREAT WESTERN LIVESTOCK SHOW

The 48th District Agricultural Association's 16th annual Great Western Livestock Show will be held December 2-7, 1941, at the Los Angeles Union Stock Yards.

This stock show has been of tremendous economic and educational value to the entire western livestock industry. The show has been carried forward on intensely practical lines, with the value of improved breeding and scientific feeding stressed.

Auction sale of Hereford range and herd bulls, as well as registered heifers. This sale will take place Friday, December 5, at 9 a. m.

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During the past decade there has been a 26 per cent increase in cattle numbers in the twelve southern states (not including Texas and Oklahoma). There has been little change in the total number of horses or sheep, an 11 per cent decrease in the number of mules, about 12 per cent increase in cows milked, and an increase of 44 per cent in the number of hogs. Amount of pasture available for livestock grazing is now about 114,000,000 acres, or 13 per cent more than it was ten years ago. The foregoing figures are taken from an article by R. H. Lush, pasture specialist, National Fertilizer Association.

## MISSING GOOD ARTICLES

For some reason or other we have not been receiving your AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER and have just discovered that we have been missing many good articles contained in your magazine. We have just neglected renewing our subscription and enclose check for a three-year subscription.—J. TARABINO, Las Animas County, Colo.

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